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Meadowlark

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From the Editor

Lessons from the Geese

What follows is an inspiring lesson from Canada Geese on how we can work together to make IOS an even better organization. Next time you hear a flock of geese overhead, look to the sky and remember the lessons they teach.

FACT: As each Canada Goose flaps its wings, it creates an "uplift" for the birds that follow. By flying in the "V" formation, the flock adds 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew alone.

LESSON: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

FACT: When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of flying alone. It quickly moves back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front of it.

LESSON: If we have as much sense as a goose, we stay in formation with those headed where we want to go. We are willing to accept their help and give our help to others.

FACT: When the lead goose tires, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies to the point position.

LESSON: It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing leadership. As with geese, people are inter-dependent on each other's skills, capabilities, and unique arrangements of gifts, talents, or resources.

FACT: The geese flying in formation honk to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

LESSON: We need to make sure our honking is encouraging. In groups where there is encouragement, the production is much greater. The power of encouragement is the quality of honking we seek.

FACT: When a goose gets sick, wounded, or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it dies or is able to fly again. Then, they launch out with another formation or catch up with the flock.

LESSON: If we have as much sense as geese, we will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.

****Transcribed from a speech by Angeles Arrien at a 1991 Organization Development Network seminar, which was based on the work of Milton Olson.**

Sheryl De Vore

MEADOWLARK

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President's Message

Spring is one of the most anticipated seasons in the birder's year — a time to seek those coveted birds at your favorite spot and to share birding with someone new. This year, an entire week, May 3 - 10, is dedicated to a nationwide celebration to make the non-birding public aware of the wonders of bird migration and conservation. The week culminates on May 9th with Migratory Bird Day celebrations. In Illinois, this falls on Spring Bird Count Day, which prevents many of us from participating in special events scheduled that day. But we can find other ways to promote Migratory Bird Conservation.

One way is to volunteer to help with special activities planned at your neighborhood park, forest preserve nature center, or wildlife refuge celebrating bird migration. Another way you can help conserve migratory birds and other wildlife is to join the Teaming With Wildlife Initiative movement. Hopefully by the time you read this, a bill will be introduced in Congress to develop a funding source for non-game fish and wildlife. If you have ever birded a state or federal wildlife refuge you owe a debt to the men and women who hunt or fish. Money they pay in user taxes on the hunting and fishing equipment and licenses and special permits help preserve and maintain important birding areas.

Teaming With Wildlife hopes to generate similar user fees on equipment (field guide, bird feeders and other outdoor equipment) we and other outdoor enthusiasts use. These funds will be used to conserve and protect additional wildlife and fish habitat, provide additional recreational areas and fund continued conservation education. If you don't know what Teaming With Wildlife is all about, drop me a note and I'll be happy to discuss this issue.

The Society is a member of the "Teaming Coalition" but it is up to you to let your Congressman or woman know how you feel. Until next time, good birding, and remember to spread the word about conserving our migratory birds today.

Bob Montgomery

Articles

First State Record of Gull-billed Tern:

Waukegan Beach 122
— Eric Walters

The 1996-97 Record Invasion of Snowy Owls in Illinois

124
...With A Summary of Records
from Illinois and Lower Lake Michigan
— David B. Johnson and Richard Biss

The 1997 Spring Bird Count

129
— Vernon M. Kleen and Peter C. Petersen

Departments

Seasonal Highlights —

Spring Migration 138

Field Notes —

Spring Migration 142
— Paul Clyne

Index for Volume 6, *Meadowlark*

158
— Renee Baade

About Our Cover:

Swainson's Hawk drawing by Brian K. Willis. This rare species was recorded on the 1997 Illinois Spring Bird Count.

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First State Record of Gull-billed Tern: Waukegan Beach

By Eric Walters

On 30 May 1997, I sauntered out to the south end of Waukegan Beach in Lake County to try my luck at finding an Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*). This was my fourth attempt here in May for this particular species, but I felt this day was my best chance due to the late spring date and east winds which could push any potential rarities onto the beach. While scanning the gull and Common Tern (*S. hirundo*) flocks, my attention was quickly lost on a group of Forster's Terns (*S. forsteri*) on the beach. "This is a large flock for such a late date," I thought. So count them I did, focusing so strongly on the task at hand that when I came across a different looking tern, I passed it by, for fear of losing track of the count. About 15 seconds later, I thought, "Didn't that tern have an all black bill?" and "Didn't it seem really different?" I forgot my Forster's count and quickly turned back to this mystery tern, immediately noticing its black head, nape, bill, and legs. The bill looked strange, as if it were two bills. The bird's back was noticeably paler, at least a shade lighter than the nearby Common and Forster's Terns. Among terns in breeding plumage, there is only one in the world with a very thick, all black bill, black legs, and a very pale back. I had discovered a Gull-billed Tern (*Gelochelidon nilotica*)!

I raced back to my car, got my camera, and quickly shot a roll of film. After this, I noticed a few other details. The bird appeared stocky and this, along with its long legs, gave the impression of a much larger bird despite it being the same overall length as the other *Sterna* terns present. Its underparts were



Gull-billed Tern in flight. Notice the short and shallow forked tail.

white without any markings. The short, slightly forked tail was best seen when the bird was flying. While the bird sat on the beach, its tail was comparably shorter than the other terns nearby. In flight, the bird appeared heavier-looking, wider-winged, and with a slower wing beat. It called a few times, and while I'm not familiar with this species' vocalizations, it did sound different than the calling Common and Forster's Terns. This sighting represents Illinois' first documented record of a Gull-billed Tern.

The Gull-billed Tern winters from the western coast of Mexico to Ecuador and from southern Texas south to the Caribbean coast of Central America. In North America, it nests along marine coasts in marshes and on beaches in Salton Sea, California, Sonora, Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, and Florida (Terres J. 1991).

The Gull-billed Tern rarely ventures far inland. Only three records exist at sites between 100 and 200 miles from the sea: southern Arizona

(DeSante & Pyle 1986), eastern Pennsylvania, and northern Mississippi (American Birds 1987-93 & Field Notes 1994-97).

Obviously, an inland report of this tern comes under much scrutiny. One spring sighting, by three independent observers from Lake Erie at Long Point, Ontario on 22 May 1985 (American Birds 39:266) did not appear in the "Annotated Checklist of Ontario birds" (1991), and was probably rejected due to lack of precedence.

Bohlen (1989) considers the following three Illinois reports hypothetical. The first Illinois report was from Chicago's Lake Calumet on 15 and 26 August 1959, but others who later saw the bird from a distance of 100 yards or greater could not confirm the bird's identification (fide Robert Russell). The second report was from Wilmette's Gillson Park (Cook County) on 10 and 15 August 1960. This is an intriguing report since the bird was seen flying overhead and came close to the pier many times for about five minutes (fide Robert Russell). Apparently, no notes were taken of this sighting, which leaves the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee wondering if similar species were eliminated. The last report, 13 August 1967, from Waukegan Beach was a brief flyby observation. One observer now discounts his personal observation as being valid (fide Kim Eckert).

The only documented inland North American records more than 200 miles from known Gull-billed Tern locations are three early fall reports from Indiana (fide Ken Brock) and now Illinois'

spring record. The first Indiana bird was photographed from the Falls of the Ohio (on the Indiana/Kentucky border) on 27 August 1994. The second record was seen among 1,500 Common Terns at Miller Beach on Lake Michigan on 31 August 1995. The third bird was photographed just weeks later at Lake Monroe (southwest Indiana) on 10 September 1995. (Note: to identify Gull-billed Terns in the fall, similar tern species need to be eliminated. First summer plumages of Black and Least Terns have dark bills and legs, and are pale above. Many adult Forster's Terns have acquired winter plumage by mid-August and have a fairly thick, dark bill and look very pale in flight. The Forster's legs might pass for being dark in weak lighting, but likely wouldn't be noticed in flight.) The Illinois bird constitutes the fourth inland record.

The absence of other accepted North American records this far inland

and the occurrence of four confirmed sightings within three years from fairly close locations suggest that all four observations involve the same individual. Gull-billed Terns can live many years; one was found to be nearly 14 years old (Parnell et al. 1995). Since the age at first breeding is at least 5 years old (Parnell 1995), this individual is probably a non-breeding adult with no reason to defend territory. Perhaps initially helped by a summer hurricane,

this bird found its way to the Lake Michigan region where it has returned to the same general area for several years.

Indeed, when a Sandwich Tern visited this same Waukegan Beach in 1989, the observer suspected that all seven records of this species recorded throughout the Great Lakes region between 1986 and 1989 were the same individual (Binford 1993). The same scenario could be repeating itself with the Gull-billed Tern.



Gull-billed Tern landing on the beach (far right). Notice the lack of a forked tail.

Gull-billed Tern landing on beach. Notice the very pale back and flight feathers relative to the Forster's Terns in front of it.

Gull-billed Tern taking off at Waukegan Beach. Notice the broad width of the wings where they attach to the body, and the dark trailing edge of the primaries.



Photos by Eric Walters.

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The 1996-97 Record Invasion of Snowy Owls in Illinois

With a Summary of Records from Illinois and Lower Lake Michigan

By David B. Johnson and Richard Biss

From 4 November 1996 through 15 April 1997 a record invasion of 73 Snowy Owls (*Nyctea scandiaca*) occurred in Illinois. They were re-corded as far west as the Mississippi River (although in Iowa), as far east as Danville in Vermilion County, and as far south as Carlyle Lake in Bond and Clinton Counties.

Most Illinois' owls (48) were recorded along the Lake Michigan shoreline. This was also typical of Snowies (34) reported in northern Indiana along its shores (Ken Brock in litt.; see appendix) and at least 11 more reported from Berrien County, Michigan along the shoreline (Kip Miller in litt.; see appendix).

While many Illinois observers lamented the lack of owls in the interior, the Snowies were there as well, though often in areas where access by birders was limited. One example is O'Hare International Airport in Cook County where as many as five Snowy Owls were present from December through February (Glenn Dunn pers. comm.).

Unlike the previous Illinois record of 59 Snowy Owls during the winter of 1980-81 (Kleen 1981), nearly all the owls reported in this documented invasion were from northeastern Illinois. The distribution of owls in this invasion (see appendix) was more like that of the winter of 1991-92 when 46 Snowy

Owls were recorded mostly along Lake Michigan (Johnson 1992).

Methodology

Though the methodology for determining whether an owl sighting represented a new individual was fairly subjective in some cases, we tried to be conservative and consistent in the manner of recording new individuals. The decision to include an owl as a new individual depended on the number present during the sighting, the number of days certain individuals lingered, whether the observation was during, before, or after a heavy migration period, the maximum count during a single day at a particular location compared with the number at other locations nearby, the distance between observations, and how frequently an area was covered. Some owls stayed a single day while others remained throughout winter. Leapfrogging or moving off a wintering territory may have occurred but was often difficult to prove or detect.

We reviewed all daily winter Illinois Snowy records from Illinois bird alert hotlines during this period. John Purcell (in litt.) also provided daily records of owl observations at Montrose Harbor in Chicago. Glenn Dunn, a biologist at O'Hare Airport, also provided some of the data used in this report. We suggest that many owls went undetected.

This irruption or flight was clearly evident elsewhere in the Great Lakes region with Snowy Owls being reported on many statewide birding hotlines from November through April. To quote the Wisconsin hotline on 21 November 1996, there were "too many owls in some areas to count." Iowa recorded Snowy Owls in at least 8 counties during the winter (Peter Peterson pers. comm.) the closest to Illinois was in Scott County. Great Lakes State's Christmas Bird Count data (LeBaron 1997) revealed 59 owls in 39 count circles, and in Canada, an amazing 91 individuals were counted in 12 count circles in Manitoba with 40 in Winnipeg alone! Further afield, British Columbia and Washington State recorded Snowy Owl numbers "the likes of which haven't been seen in 27 years!" Sixty-six owls in 10 count circles in Washington State were recorded, for example, and a new record was established, 62 Snowies in one count circle at Ladner, British Columbia-Washington. However, along the eastern coast of North America, Snowy Owls were noted in average numbers (LeBaron 1997).

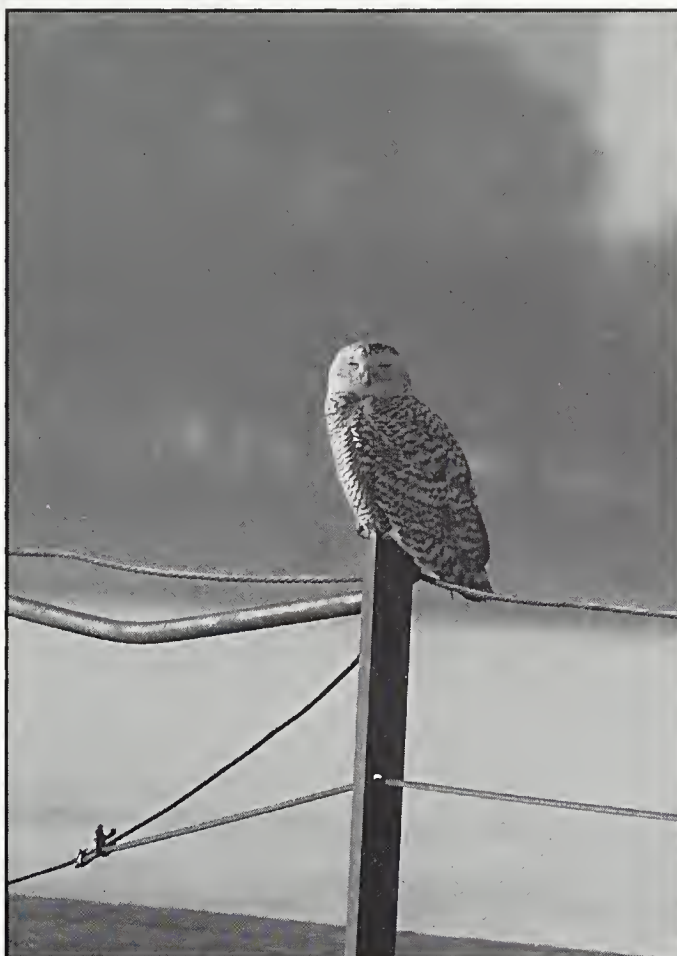
The first report in Illinois came on 4 November 1996 with a singleton reported at Waukegan in Lake County and two individuals on the Navy Pier jetties in Chicago, Cook County. This arrival date was normal for most Illinois Snowy Owl irruptions. At the beginning of the fourth week in No

vember, the Snowy Owl invasion picked up in earnest. On 23 November 1996, while 10 Snowy Owls were observed along Wisconsin's lakeshore, 3 of which were in Racine and Kenosha Counties (Andy Sigler pers comm.), David B. Johnson and Denis Bohm set a state record of 9 owls (the most Snowies seen by a single observer or party) in one day along Chicago's lakefront, 5 at Montrose Harbor, 2 at Navy Pier, and 2 at Meigs airport. James Landing saw an additional owl at Jackson Park that day, and at least two owls were present at Waukegan on the same day as well. In addition, at least two were in Indiana on the 23rd. This snapshot total for one day along Lake Michigan's shoreline was 24 owls! On 30 November, Kenneth J. Brock personally set an Indiana record of 5 owls along Indiana's lakefront beaches. By the end of November 1996, observers had recorded 36 Snowy Owls in Illinois, 15 in Indiana, and at least 8 in Michigan (see appendix).

This movement of owls seemed to continue unabated through the end of December with 18 new individuals in Illinois and 14 in Indiana. Illinois CBC reports tallied 16 Snowy Owls in the state (in 5 count circles). During January, numbers seemed to dwindle at the lakefront locations with only 4 new reports from Illinois' lakefront, 4 on Indiana's lakefront, and 1 in Michigan. However more reports originated from inland locations (at least in Illinois) with 7 reports, 5 at O'Hare Airport, Cook County, and 2 in DuPage County. Several birds were already inland with the southernmost at Keyesport at Carlyle Lake. Two owls at La Salle Nuclear Lake were also noted. During February there was one new Snowy Owl report for Illinois and singles were recorded in both Indiana and Berrien County, Michigan.

The last Snowy Owl reports were

of apparent returning migrants with one found dead at Montrose, Chicago, on 10 March, one along I-55 on 27 March 1997, and 4 birds along Lake Michigan in Illinois. The latest report



Snowy Owl. Montrose Harbor, Chicago, Cook County. 14 December 1996. This was one of 72 Snowies that invaded Illinois in the 1996-97 season. Photo by Craig Thayer.

was 15 April 1997 at Midway Airport in Chicago.

Casualties

Of the 73 Snowy Owls recorded in Illinois, 10 percent were casualties. The first known casualty involved an owl found dead from starvation on 17 November in Lake Zurich in Lake County. The second casualty was a male bird killed by a car near Crete in Cook County at Glenwood-Dyer Road and I-394 on 29 November (FMNH 384661). Four other "collision" casualties occurred at O'Hare Airport, either from ground vehicles or aircraft (two of these birds were a male and female and are at the FMNH). One of these owls was a possible victim of "jet wash," a female owl with a broken

coracoid recorded at O'Hare International Airport on 2 April 1997 (FMNH). In addition, another bird was electrocuted at O'Hare in December when the bird landed on a transformer (Glenn Dunn pers. comm.). At Montrose on 10 Mar 1997, a male owl was found dead, washed up to shore, along Lake Michigan (D. Willard pers comm.; FMNH).

An interesting account of a Snowy Owl encounter with a Peregrine Falcon occurred on 24 November and 4 December at Montrose, Chicago (Jeff Sanders pers comm.; John Purcell in litt.). These encounters generally consisted of repeated "stoops" by the falcon and "hissing" by the owl. However, Sanders reported "no harm."

Prey

The following owl prey were noted by observers either by prey in talons or from skeletal remains from examined owl pellets: Mallard, Red-breasted Merganser, Rock Dove, Norway Rat, and "mice." Purcell suggested that Snowies at Montrose might have taken Common Goldeneye as the winter population was ample, however, no direct proof could be provided. At Montrose, a Snowy Owl was observed on a light pole clutching a dead Mallard. Perhaps most interesting was the report to the Chicago rare bird alert on 7 January 1997 of an owl along Chicago's lakefront that swooped down after an owner's small pet dog.

Historical Perspective

There is little past history in the way of quantifying Snowy Owl invasions in Illinois, however Bohlen (1989) listed major invasion years in Illinois as: 1876-77, 1882-83, 1889-90, 1892-93, 1896-97, 1901-2, 1905-6, 1909-10, 1917-18, 1926-27, 1930-31, 1949-50, 1974-75, 1976-77, 1978-79, and 1980-81 (59 records). Unlisted (in Bohlen)

Illinois Snowy Owls

Record	Date(s)	Location	No. of individuals	Observer(s)/ source/ specimen	Comments
1	4-Nov-96	Waukegan Harbor, Lake Co.	1	Donna Motherway	
2-3	4-23 Nov 96	Navy Pier jetties, Cook Co.	2	Robert Hughes	
4	8-Nov-96	Montrose, Cook Co.	1	Kanae Hirabayashi	
*5	11-17 Nov 96	Lake Zurich, Lake Co.	1	Pete Stevenson	owl died of starvation
6	15-Nov-96	McCormick Place, Cook Co.	1	John O'Brien	
7-8	16-24 Nov 96	Waukegan Harbor, Lake Co.	2	Al Stokie, Rick Siebert et. al.	
9	17-Nov-96	4 mi. N of Jacksonville, Morgan Co.	1	Springfield rare bird alert	
10-11	17 Nov 96 - 1 Mar 97	La Salle Nuclear Power Plant lake, La Salle Co	1-2	Cynthia and John McKee	
12	20-27 Nov 96	Danville, Vermilion Co.	1	fide Marilyn Campbell	
13	23-Nov-96	La Rabida, Jackson Park, Cook Co.	1	James Landing	
14	19-25 Nov 96	Belmont Harbor, Cook Co.	1	Charlotte Newfield	
15-17	19 Nov - 5 Dec 96	Meigs Airport, Cook Co.	2-3	D. B. Johnson and Denis Bohm	
18-22	23-27 Nov 96	Montrose, Cook Co.;	5	D. B. Johnson, D. Bohm, R. Hughes, J. Purcell, J. Sanders, R. Seibert, M. Madsen, et. al	5 owls, 4 on fishing pier hook, 1 on starfloat, 23-24 Nov.
23	27-Nov-96	Elston & Augusta, Chicago Paper Board--on factory roof, Cook Co.	1	Chicago rare bird alert	
24-25	27-30 Nov 96	Winthrop Harbor, North Point Marina, Lake Co.	1-2	Stokie and Seibert, et. al	
*26	27-Nov-96	O'Hare International Airport, Cook Co.	1	Glen Dunn	found dead
27	28-Nov-96	Calumet Park, Cook Co.	1	Jeff McCoy	
28-29	22 Nov - 2 Dec 96	Navy Pier jetties, Cook Co.	2	Robert Hughes, et. al.	
30-32	28-29 Nov 96	Waukegan Harbor, Lake. Co.	2-3	Al Stokie	
33	28-Nov-96	Wilmette, Gillson Harbor, Cook Co.	1	John Koch	
*34	29-Nov-96	Cook Co. inters. of Glenwood-Dyer Road & I-394	1	fide David Willard, FMNH 384661	dead from car collision
35	30 Nov - 3 Dec 96	GLNTC marina, Lake Co.	1	Chicago rare bird alert	
36-39	6-8 Dec 96	Navy Pier jetties, Cook Co.	4	R. Hughes, Kosh Monday	
40	7-Dec-96	Hollywood beach, Chicago, Cook Co.	1	Susan Frank	
41	7-8 Dec 96	Waukegan Harbor, Lake Co.	1	Johnson and Stokie	
42	10-Dec-96	Du Page Co. Airport	1	Du Page rare bird alert	
*43	11-13 Dec 96	O' Hare International Airport, Cook Co.	1	fide D. Willard FMNH	male found dead
*44	Dec 96 [exact date ?]	O' Hare International Airport, Cook Co.	1	Glenn Dunn	owl electrocuted on a transformer
45-46	22-Dec-96	Montrose, Cook Co.	2	D. Johnson, J. Purcell, Larry Hood, Robert Montgomery, Patrick John, Renata Denton, et. al.	two new immature owls noted
47	25-Dec-96	Belmont Harbor, Cook Co.	1	D. Johnson, J. Sanders, A. Stokie, K. Hirabayashi.	
48	14 Dec - 17 Jan 97	Keyesport, Carlyle Lake, Bond and Clinton Cos.	1	Springfield rare bird alert	
49	25-Dec-96	Navy Pier jetty, Cook Co.	1	D. Johnson	
50	25 Dec 96 - 6 Jan 97	Meigs Airport, Cook Co.	1	D. Johnson et. al.	
51	26-Dec-96	Fox Valley, fields S of Metlife Bldg., Du Page Co.	1	Du Page bird alert	
52	26 Dec 96 - mid Jan 97	Illioopolis, Sangamon Co.	1	Borden plant, photographed.	
53	27-28 Dec 96	Wilmette and Evanston, Cook Co.	1	Eric Walters et. al.	on ice flow
54	1-Jan-97	Waukegan Harbor, Lake Co.	1	D. Johnson, R. Biss et. al.	new "female" at new harbor
55	9-Jan-97	Diehl Roal west of Rte 59, Du Page Co.	1	Du Page rare bird alert	
56	10-Jan-97	Aquarium breakwater, Chicago, Cook Co.	1	D. Johnson	
57	10-19 Jan 97	Waveland Golf Course shed roof N of Lincoln Park Bird Sanctuary, Cook Co.	1	D. Johnson, J. Purcell, et. al.	
58-62	"All winter" [exact dates unknown]	O'Hare International Airport, Cook Co.	5	Glenn Dunn	single day maximum count was five owls
63	26-Jan-97	Diversey Harbor, Cook Co.	1	Jill Nyland	
*64	10-Mar-97	Montrose, Cook Co.	1	fide D. Willard FMNH	a male found dead in water
65	27-Mar-97	I-55, exact location unknown	1	fide Keith McMullen	
66	23-Mar-97	Montrose, Cook Co.	1	J. Purcell	very dark immature bird
67-68	23 Feb - 5 Apr 97	Navy Pier, Cook Co.	1-2	Geoff Williamson et al	
69	9 Mar - 5 Apr 97	Meigs Field, Cook Co.	1	G. Williamson	
*70	2-Apr-97	O'Hare International Airport, Cook Co.	1	Glen Dunn and D. Willard FMNH	female, adult?, died of injuries possibly from "jet wash"
71	date unknown, winter 96-97	Des Plaines Conservation Area;	1	fide Berni Richter	
72	winter 96-97 [date unknown]	O'Hare International Airport, Cook Co.	1	fide Berni Richter	owl "in pieces" found
73	15+? April 97	Midway Airport, Chicago, Cook Co.	1	fide Glen Dunn	

major invasion years were: 1991-92 (46 records) and 1996-97 (73 records). Other possible irruptions took place 1967-68 and 1987-88 according to Bohlen. Elsewhere in the Midwest the largest recent irruption was the winter of 1993-94 when 351 Snowy Owls were reported in Minnesota (Schladweiler 1994).

Scientists generally assume that Snowy Owl irruptions or invasions occur as a result of lemming population crashes in the Arctic forcing the owls to come farther south below the Canadian border in search of additional prey. Indications were that there was a crash of both bog lemmings and/or vole populations in Alaska and northwestern Canada. This in combination with an apparent heavy, early snow cover in the tundra and taiga areas of western

and middle Canada (LeBaron 1997) may have led to the 1996-97 invasion of Snowy Owls in Illinois and elsewhere in the Great Lakes.

If observers are aware of other Snowy Owl records from the 1996-1997 season, the authors would appreciate hearing about them to make the account as complete as possible.

Acknowledgments

We would like to especially thank the following people who provided much information regarding the 1996-1997 Snowy Owl invasion in Illinois, Indiana and Michigan: H. David Bohlen, Kenneth Brock, Glenn Dunn, Lisa Gibson, Brad Harris, Cindi and John McKee, Kip Miller, John Purcell, Berni Richter, Pete Stevenson, Eric Walters, and David Willard.

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Northern Indiana Snowy Owls

Record	Date(s)	Location	No. of individuals	Observer(s)	Comments
1	15-Nov-96	Michigan City, La Porte Co.;	1	Jeff McCoy	
2	16-Nov-96	Michigan City, La Porte Co.	1	Kenneth Brock	female, different bird
3	16-Nov-96	West Beach, Porter Co.	1	K. Brock	
4	16-Nov-96	Port of Indiana, Lake Co.	1	K. Brock	
5	23-Nov-96	Michigan City, La Porte Co.	1	K. Brock	imm female
6	23-Nov-96	Hammond Marina, Lake Co.	1	K. Brock	imm female
7	26-Nov-96	Miller Beach, Lake Co.	1	K. Brock	
8	28-Nov-96	Whiting Park, Lake Co.	1	K. Brock	
9-11	28-30 Nov 96	Hammond Marina, Lake Co.	3 on 30 Nov	K. Brock	
12	29-Nov-96	West Beach, Porter Co.	1	Jeff McCoy	
13-14	30-Nov-96	Miller Beach, Lake Co.	2	K. Brock	
15	30-Nov-96	Michigan City, La Porte Co.	1	K. Brock	
16	1-Dec-96	Port of Indiana, Lake Co.	1	Clyde Fields	
17-18	7-Dec-96	Whiting Park, Lake Co.	2	K. Brock	
19	7-Dec-96	Port of Indiana, Lake Co.;	1	K. Brock	
20-21	12-Dec-96	Whihala Beach, Whiting lakefront, Lake Co.	2	Joy Bower	
22-23	13-Dec-96	Port of Indiana, Lake Co.	2	John White	
24	14-Dec-96	Miller Beach, Lake Co.	1	John Cassady	
25	14-Dec-96	Michigan City, La Porte Co.	1	J. Cassady	
26	14-Dec-96	Port of Indiana, Lake Co.	1	J. White	
27-28	22-Dec-96	Miller Beach, Lake Co.	2	Robert Hughes	
29	22-Dec-96	Port of Indiana, Lake Co.	1	Clyde Fields	
30	1-Jan-97	Michigan City, La Porte Co.	1	J. McCoy	
31	7-Jan-97	Port of Indiana, Lake Co.	1	J. White	
32	14-Jan-97	Ogden Dunes, Porter Co.	1	J. McCoy	
33	20 Jan - 3 Feb 97	Port of Indiana, Lake Co.	1	J. White, J. McCoy, K. Brock.	
34	8-Feb-97	Michigan City, La Porte Co.	1	K. Brock	imm female

Michigan Snowy Owls, Berrien County

Record	Date(s)	Location	No. of individuals	Observer(s) / source	Comments
1	7-Nov-96	Silver Beach	1	Kip Miller	
2-8	Nov-Dec 96	St. Joseph and New Buffalo	7	fide K. Miller	owls at a WalMart parking lot and Orchard Hills landfill, both inland
9	1-4 Jan 97	New Buffalo	1	fide K. Miller	
10	18-19 Jan 97	Paw Paw Lake	1	fide K. Miller	
11	7-Feb-97	Berrien Springs, US-31	1	John Roosenberg	

The Illinois 1997 Spring Bird Count

By Vernon M. Kleen and Peter C. Petersen

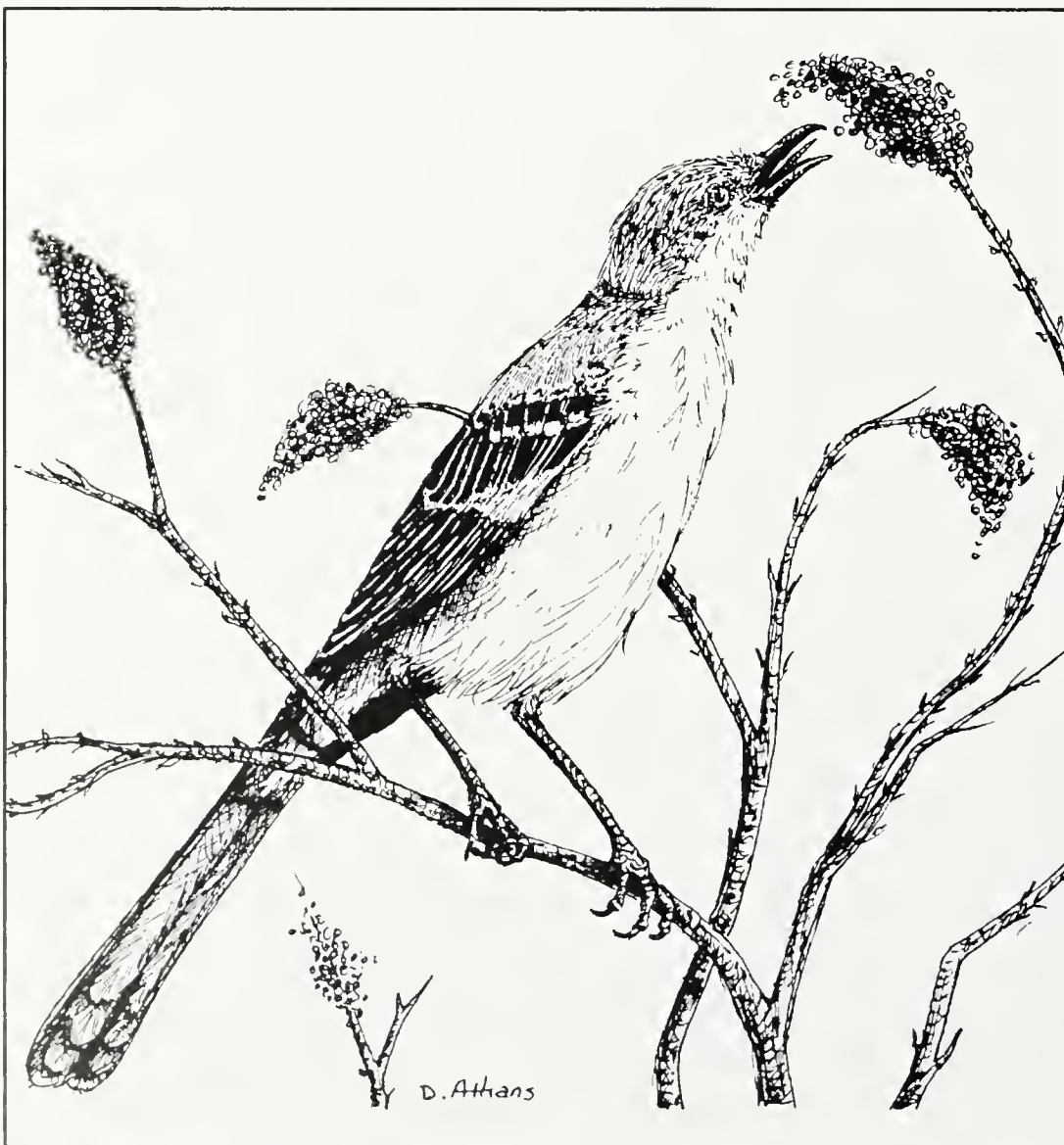
Saturday, 10 May 1997, was a gorgeous day for Illinois' 26th Statewide Spring Bird Count. The sky was clear (or nearly so), the wind was minimal, and the temperatures were accommodating. Everyone was out that day, including a record number of count participants. When such "picnic-like" weather occurs, birders do not expect peak birding opportunities; however, the 1997 count day was an exception. Anxious birds, whose migration had been retarded as a re-

sult of the cool, unspring-like weather of April and early May, were making up for down time and were en masse across the state. Had the count occurred a week earlier (when birders were still wondering if spring, and the birds, would ever arrive), the results, except perhaps in the extreme southern counties, would have been dismal. As it turned out, the 1997 Spring Bird Count was one of the best ever.

This year, count day fell on the latest possible date (which, inciden-

tally, was also the same date for International Migratory Bird Day). Because of the late date, the northern counties were expected to have a greater number of species. True to expectations, 11 of the 17 counties with 150 or more species were in the northern half of Illinois; only 6 were in the southern half. On closer inspection, 5 of the top 6 counties were in the northern "quarter" of the state: Cook and Lake each with 194 species; then came Union (178), Will (177), Du Page (174) and La Salle (172). See Table 7 for details.

Early morning temperatures ranged from the mid-to-upper 30s in the north to the lower 40s in the south; by afternoon the temperatures had climbed to the mid-to-upper 60s or



Northern Mockingbird drawing by David Athans.

DEDICATION

This report is dedicated to Pete Petersen who was an established birder and compiler in Illinois for nearly four decades. Despite being aware of his deteriorating condition (he died on Saturday, 12 July 1997), Pete continued the challenge of compilership for the 1997 Spring Bird Count. On receipt of the county reports he promptly reviewed and edited them and made them ready for computer processing. All this was done by 10 June. Even though he was unable to complete the final report, the part he did do made this compilation much easier. Thank you Pete for all you have done for birding. We will remember you.

low 70s statewide. There couldn't have been a balmier day for the Spring Bird Count.

Illinois birders were out in record force. Table 1 compares the 1997 observer efforts with those of the past two years and identifies the current state records. New records (highlighted in boldface) were established for number of observers, number of party miles and hours, counties with 100 or more species, and counties with 20 or more observers. Counties with 20 or more observers appear in Table 2; Cook and Du Page both fielded more than 100. This year marked the second time, in the Count's 26-year history, that results were received from all 102 counties (the first time was in 1986). The 268 accepted species was only one short of last year's record high (269) and the 569,000+ birds was also second best (only 25,000 more were needed for the record).

A new procedure for recording party miles and party hours was put into effect this year; it provides a better guideline of and how to record party miles and party hours listed as "other". We now have a meaningful and realistic standard on how to record the amount of birding effort done while boating, canoeing, bicycling, fishing, sitting, feeder watching, and other activities.

The miles and hours submitted as "other" on this year's count have been included in Table 1 as part of Total Party Miles and Total Party Hours.

Another comparison (Table 3) shows the amount of birding effort in each quarter of the state (the 4 quarters, identified as Areas, are delineated in Figure 1). The information presented for each Area includes the number of participating counties (100% this year), the total number of party hours, and the average number of party hours per county (including the "other" party hours).

TABLE 1 – Annual Comparisons

Criteria	1997	1996	1995	Highest Total
Species	268	269	266	269 (1996)
Individual Birds	569,014	593,680	554,828	593,680 (1996)
Participating Counties	102	96	97	102 (2 yrs)
Observers	1,611	1,521	1,548	1,611 (1997)
Party Miles Walked	2,620	2,525	2,628	2,628 (1995)
Party Miles Driven	23,070	21,446	22,052	23,070 (1997)
Total Party Miles	25,690	23,971	24,680	25,690 (1997)
Party Hours Walked	3,457	3,300	3,378	3,457 (1997)
Party Hours Driven	2,050	2,025	2,042	2,050 (1997)
Total Party Hours	5,565	5,325	5,420	5,565 (1997)
Species in 90% or more Counties	49	55	47	55 (1996)
Counties with 100 or more Species	80	76	76	80 (1997)
Counties with 20 or more observers	24	22	23	24 (1997)

(New Records in **Bold**)

TABLE 2 – Counties with 20 or more participants

Cook	125	Champaign	29
Du Page	101	Kendall	29
McDonough	74	Crawford	28
Will	57	La Salle	28
Schuyler	56	Boone	25
Lake	51	Edgar	23
Kane	48	Ogle	23
McHenry	45	Randolph	23
Livingston	37	Coles	22
Winnebago	34	Adams	21
Stephenson	31	Pike	21
Jo Daviess	30	Vermilion	21

Most Common Species

This year 49 species (Table 4) were reported from 92 (90%) or more counties; 26 were reported from 100 or more counties and, perhaps, had more time and effort been possible in the counties where those species were "missing", more than just 10 species would have been recorded from all 102. Table 5 identifies the 20 "most common species". The first five have remained the same for several years; however, as a result of the delayed spring migration, the Yellow-rumped and Palm Warblers, although not new to the list, were the 6th and 8th, respectively, most common birds reported this year. Except for the White-throated Sparrow (which made the

list for the 10th time), all other species are among the top 20 at least half the time. It's interesting to note that the Canada Goose was the 7th most common species this year (less than 6,000 birds, making it as common as the House Sparrow and more than 3 times as common as the Rock Dove—which didn't make the list at all).

Significant Species

In contrast to being very common, 14 species (highlighted in boldface in Table 6) were reported from just one county. Cook County's Ross's Goose was a first-time occurrence for the Spring Bird Count which now brings the grand total up to 319 species. Other significant singles were the Harlequin Duck (2nd occurrence), Western Tanager (3rd occurrence), Great Black-backed Gull (4th occurrence), Red-necked Grebe, Cinnamon Teal, and Least Tern (5th occurrences). It was only the 2nd occurrence for the Lesser Black-backed Gull, but 8 were reported in Cook (2) and Lake (6) Counties. Five expected species not reported this year were Merlin, Black-necked Stilt, Short-eared Owl, Fox Sparrow, and Lapland Longspur (and we were just two species short of a new state record). It was also surprising to find that there

were only 2 American Tree Sparrows and both were reported from Fulton County in central Illinois.

As for other records, there are 148 new state records (marked with asterisks) and 44 ties with state record (#) in Table 6. The majority of records (68* and 30#) occur in Column 1, the

greatest number of counties ever reporting the species in one year; this means that almost 1/3 of the current records for total number of counties reporting the species were set or tied in 1997. Species that recorded a 10% or more increase in the number of counties over the previous high were:

Double-crested Cormorant, Mute Swan, Red-breasted Merganser, Bald Eagle, Wild Turkey, Dunlin, Short-billed Dowitcher, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Bank Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Solitary Vireo, Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers, Northern Parula, Yellow Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Ovenbird, Louisiana Waterthrush, and Blue Grosbeak. So far only 12 species have reached the maximum (102) county total.

Another 58 records (54* and 4#) occur in Column 2, the highest count total ever reported for the species. Major species increases (+100 means an increase by 100 birds; —% denotes the percent of increase for selected species) were: Great Blue Heron (+400), Canada Goose (+600), Turkey Vulture (+500), Bald Eagle (+15—54%), Swainson's Hawk (+3—100%), Sandhill Crane (+26), American Avocet (+52—320%), Spotted Sandpiper (+400—45%), Sanderling (+19—53%), Thayer's Gull (+6—200%), Lesser Black-backed Gull (+7—700%), Ruby-throated Hummingbird (+470—86%), Cliff Swallow (+1600—67%), Marsh Wren (+90—60%), Veery (+380—72%), Solitary Vireo (+170—132%), Golden-winged Warbler (+40), Black-throated Blue Warbler (+30—50%), Yellow-rumped Warbler (+3200), Black-throated Green Warbler (+360), Palm Warbler (+360), Black-&-white Warbler (+900—87), Ovenbird (+890—114%), Northern Waterthrush (+200), Clay-colored Sparrow (+17—85%), Lark Sparrow (+50) and Savannah Sparrow (+240).

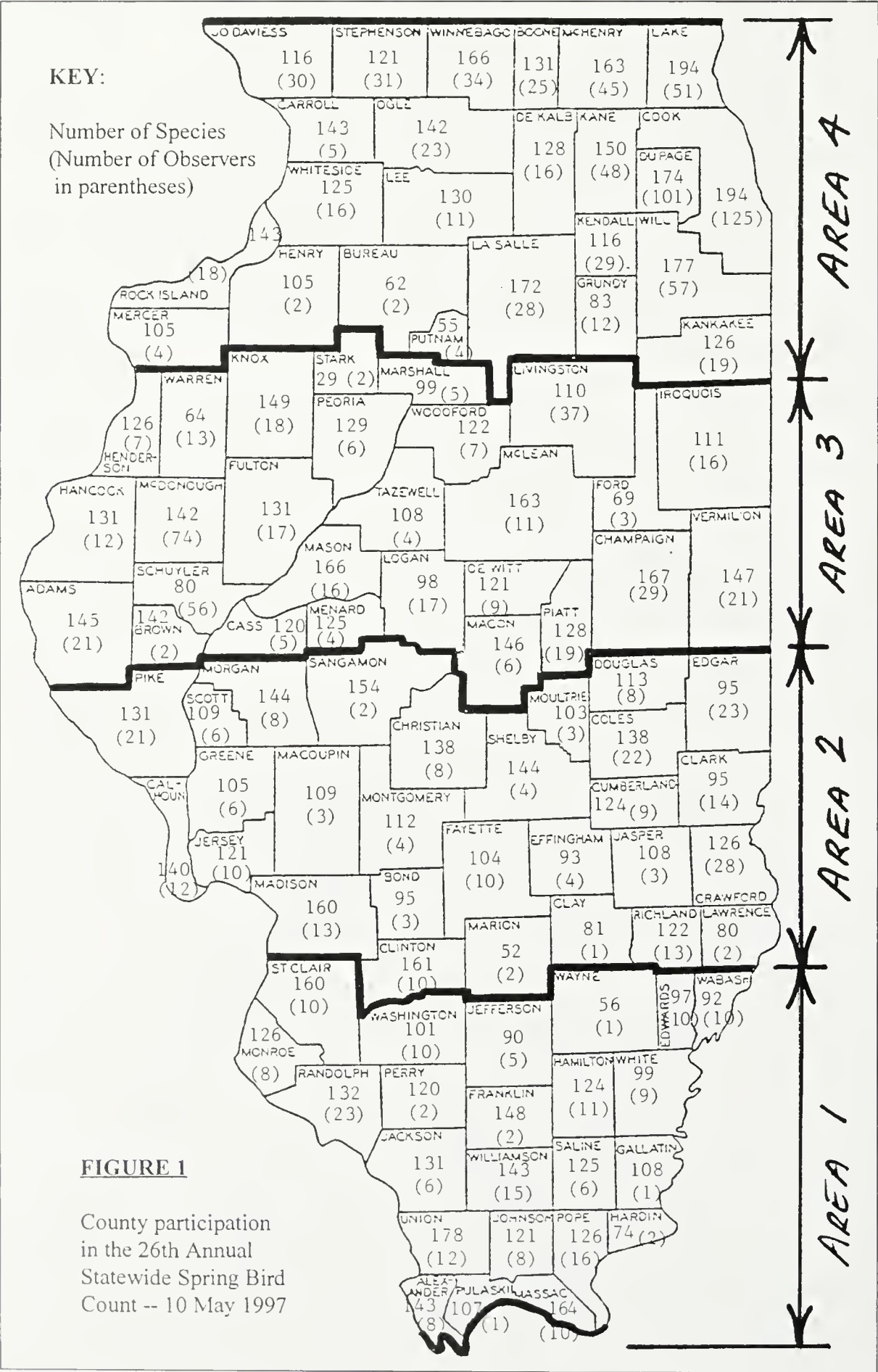


TABLE 3 – Area Coverage

AREA	Possible No. Counties	No. Counties Participating	No. Party Hours	Average No. Party Hours Per County
1	23	23 (100%)	810	35.22
2	28	28 (100%)	989	35.32
3	27	27 (100%)	1,504	55.70
4	24	24 (100%)	2,262	94.25
TOTAL	102	102 (100%)	5,565	54.56

TABLE 4 – Species Reported from 92 (90%) or more of the Counties

Great Blue Heron	99	Blue Jay	102	Rose-br Grosbeak	95
Canada Goose	95	American Crow	101	Indigo Bunting	101
Mallard	95	Tufted Titmouse	99	Eastern Towhee	95
Turkey Vulture	100	White-brst Nuthatch	96	Chipping Sparrow	99
Red-tailed Hawk	100	House Wren	95	Field Sparrow	100
Killdeer	101	Eastern Bluebird	99	Song Sparrow	100
Rock Dove	96	Wood Thrush	93	White-thr Sparrow	96
Mourning Dove	102	American Robin	102	White-crwn Sparrow	95
Chimney Swift	98	Gray Catbird	100	Red-wing Blackbird	102
Red-headed Woodpecker	101	Brown Thrasher	101	Eastern Meadowlark	99
Red-bellied Woodpecker	100	European Starling	102	Common Grackle	102
Downy Woodpecker	101	Yellow Warbler	92	Brown-head Cowbird	101
Northern Flicker	100	Yellow-rumped Warble	100	Baltimore Oriole	100
Eastern Kingbird	99	Palm Warbler	96	House Finch	98
Horned Lark	94	Comm. Yellowthroat	97	American Goldfinch	100
Tree Swallow	92	Northern Cardinal	102	House Sparrow	102
Barn Swallow	102				

Finally, another 36 records (26* and 10#) occur in column three, the highest count of individuals for a species within one county. Major increases were: American White Pelican (+110—Hancock County), Sandhill Crane (+42—Lake County), American Avocet (+34—Mason County), Sanderling (+15—Lake County), Caspian Tern (+40—

Cook County), Ruby-throated Hummingbird (+22—Calhoun County), Solitary Vireo (+24—Du Page County), Yellow-rumped Warbler(+700—Du Page County), Black-throated Green Warbler (+120—Du Page County), American Redstart (+60—Du Page County), Clay-colored Sparrow (+4—Lake County) and White-crowned Sparrow (+1300—Cook County).

New records were established in all three categories for 11 species. There were a couple other interesting records as well; the only Least Tern encountered (for just the 5th SBC. record) was found in Tazewell County; and, nearly half of the Black-

TABLE 5 – Comparison of Twenty Most Common Species in Past Three Years

	1997	1996	1995	Highest	No. Years InTop 20
Red-winged Blackbird	62,126	69,971	69,627	69,971 (1996)	26
Common Grackle	35,050	43,552	40,371	59,264 (1974)	26
American Robin	31,851	32,587	35,720	35,720 (1995)	26
European Starling	27,540	30,567	32,741	37,736 (1992)	26
House Sparrow	22,669	20,204	26,699	31,321 (1983)	26
Yellow-rumped Warbler	17,978	14,597	10,559	17,978 (1997)	15
Canada Goose	17,040	13,894	16,398	17,040 (1997)	12
Palm Warbler	13,073	10,717	4,977	13,073 (1997)	3
American Goldfinch	13,000	12,520	12,467	13,788 (1990)	25
Blue Jay	11,561	11,783	10,661	13,446 (1984)	26
American Crow	11,305	12,096	12,491	13,226 (1991)	26
Northern Cardinal	10,706	11,822	12,088	12,088 (1995)	26
Barn Swallow	10,664	8,657	6,793	17,524 (1994)	25
White-throated Sparrow	10,440	12,767	7,386	12,767 (1996)	10
Mourning Dove	10,238	11,501	12,369	12,369 (1995)	26
Ring-billed Gull	9,973	22,994	19,757	29,243 (1994)	13
Brown-headed Cowbird	8,968	11,037	12,542	12,542 (1995)	25
Tree Swallow	7,742	16,793	7,366	19,436 (1989)	13
Chimney Swift	7,612	6,010	5,632	9,987 (1983)	23
American Golden-Plover	6,946	4,422	5,219	24,800 (1978)	15

billed Cuckoos present on count day (15 of 31) were tallied in Jackson County.

As in the past, observers have been requested to include all reports of Monk Parakeets (none reported this year), Ringed Turtle-Doves (8 reported from Will County), and Eurasian Collared-Doves (1 present in Du Page County) observed so that if and when they are elevated from "exotic" to countable species there will be a documented record of their increasing occurrence and distribution.

Acknowledgments

Without the ongoing support of Illinois' birders the Spring Bird Count would not be possible. We especially thank the county compilers who, year after year, take time

to organize their county's field efforts, gather, screen, and compile the many observations, and forward the completed data sheets and documentation forms on to the state compiler. Because of everyone's collective efforts, 1997 was a banner year.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

1998 SPRING BIRD COUNT

Saturday, 9 May 1998

—Vernon M. Kleen

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Natural Heritage Division

502 S. 2nd St., Springfield, IL 62701

TABLE 6 – Species Accounts for the 1997 Spring Bird Count

Key to Table:

** = New Spring Bird Count Species (CAPS & BOLD FACE)

* = New Spring Bird Count high count

= Ties previous Spring Bird Count high count

Species reported from a single county are in **bold face**

Species	Counties	Birds	HighCounty	(Total)
Common Loon	17	40*	Lake	(9)
Pied-billed Grebe	56	357	Lake	(50)
Horned Grebe	5	9	Two counties	(3)
Red-necked Grebe	1#	1#	Vermilion	(#1)
Eared Grebe	2	3	Rock Island	(#2)
American White Pelican	5	295	Hancock	(*205)
Double-crested Cormorant	61*	6029	Cook	(3207)
American Bittern	19	30	Lake	(5)
Least Bittern	2	3	Massac	(2)
Great Blue Heron	100*	3850*	Mason	(499)
Great Egret	53	1195	Will	(257)
Snowy Egret	5	20	St. Clair	(12)
Little Blue Heron	16	167	St. Clair	(59)
Cattle Egret	16	389	St. Clair	(278)
Green Heron	74	439	Cook	(43)
Black-crowned Night-Heron	18	863	Cook	(674)
Yellow-crown Night-Heron	9	17	Two counties	(4)
Tundra Swan	1	1	Brown	(1)
Mute Swan	21*	120	Lake	(39)
Gtr White-fronted Goose	2	3	McLean	(2)
Snow Goose	8*	17	Fayette	(6)
ROSS' GOOSE	1**	1**	Cook	(**1)
Canada Goose	95*	17040*	Du Page	(*2665)
Wood Duck	91	2920	Cook	(189)
Green-winged Teal	10	41	Cook	(8)
American Black Duck	7	13	Two counties	(3)
Mallard	95#	6644	Du Page	(1137)
Northern Pintail	8	23	Two counties	(7)
Blue-winged Teal	85	3113	Cook	(194)
Cinnamon Teal	1#	1	Brown	(1)
Species	Counties	Birds	HighCounty	(Total)
Northern Shoveler	49	420	La Salle	(49)
Gadwall	28	151	Brown	(22)
American Wigeon	14	42	Two counties	(9)
Canvasback	6#	7	McDonough	(2)
Redhead	6	33	Calhoun	(19)
Ring-necked Duck	10	21	Carroll	(5)
Greater Scaup	3	7	Two counties	(3)
Lesser Scaup	38	257	Whiteside	(30)
Harlequin Duck	1#	1#	Cook	(#1)
Surf Scoter	1	1	St. Clair	(1)
Common Goldeneye	2	2	Two counties	(1)
Bufflehead	16	92	Cook	(36)
Hooded Merganser	21	60	Henderson	(12)
Common Merganser	2	13	Will	(7)
Red-breasted Merganser	26*	1360	Lake	(976)
Ruddy Duck	25	237	Cook	(46)
Black Vulture	6	29	Union	(10)
Turkey Vulture	100*	2850*	Pope	(120)
Osprey	33	54*	Jo Daviess	(#5)
Mississippi Kite	6*	21	Union	(8)
Bald Eagle	18*	43*	Jo Daviess	(9)
Northern Harrier	32	64	Du Page	(7)
Sharp-shinned Hawk	31	99	Two counties	(14)
Cooper's Hawk	36	139*	Du Page	(*29)
Red-shouldered Hawk	34*	74	Union	(*14)
Broad-winged Hawk	43*	160	McHenry	(20)
Swainson's Hawk	1	6*	Kane	(*6)
Red-tailed Hawk	100*	1783*	Du Page	(*145)
Rough-legged Hawk	2	2	Two counties	(1)
American Kestrel	87#	502	Union	(32)
Peregrine Falcon	5	7	Cook	(#3)
Gray Partridge	3	7	Stephenson	(4)
Ring-necked Pheasant	56	945	Ford	(72)
Greater Prairie-Chicken	1	32	Jasper	(32)
Wild Turkey	76*	532	Jo Daviess	(74)

TABLE 6 – Species Accounts for the 1997 Spring Bird Count (continued)

Species	Counties	Birds	HighCounty	(Total)	Species	Counties	Birds	HighCounty	(Total)
Northern Bobwhite	79	1052	McDonough	(72)	Common Nighthawk	77	639	Lake	(49)
King Rail	2	6	Lake	(# 4)	Chuck-will's-widow	9	27	Union	(13)
Virginia rail	18	73	Lake	(22)	Whip-poor-will	73*	433	Union	(70)
Sora	51	468	Lake	(67)	Chimney Swift	98	7612	Cook	(710)
Common Moorhen	8	20	Three counties	(4)	Ruby-throat Hummingbird	86*	1022*	Calhoun	(*90)
American Coot	80	4977	Cook	(688)	Belted Kingfisher	76	385	Cook	(24)
Sandhill Crane	9	107*	Lake	(*70)	Red-headed Woodpecker	101#	3038	McDonough	(191)
Black-bellied Plover	5	14	Brown	(9)	Red-bellied Woodpecker	100	*2616*	Du Page	(147)
American Golden-Plover	24	6946	McLean	(3027)	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	24	67	Cook	(28)
Semipalmated Plover	40	429	Calhoun	(104)	Downy Woodpecker	101*	2621	Du Page	(165)
Killdeer	101#	4283*	Will	(171)	Hairy Woodpecker	84#	471	Du Page	(26)
American Avocet	4#	67*	Mason	(*49)	Northern Flicker	100#	2111	Cook	(162)
Greater Yellowlegs	56	581	Moultrie	(89)	Pileated Woodpecker	55#	307*	Union	(60)
Lesser Yellowlegs	71	2271	Monroe	(270)	Olive-sided Flycatcher	10	13	Three counties	(2)
Solitary Sandpiper	80	1213*	Calhoun	(254)	Eastern Wood-Pewee	86	801	Union	(119)
Willet	9	28	Lake	(10)	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	2	4	Two counties	(2)
Spotted Sandpiper	79#	1218*	Calhoun	(101)	Acadian Flycatcher	42*	268	Union	(113)
Upland Sandpiper	10	64	Will	(26)	Alder Flycatcher	2	2	Two counties	(1)
Hudsonian Godwit	2	3	St. Clair	(2)	Willow Flycatcher	23	47	Cook	(9)
Ruddy Turnstone	3	5	Two counties	(2)	Least Flycatcher	66	651*	Cook	(74)
Sanderling	5#	55*	Lake	(*45)	Eastern Phoebe	91	938	Winnebago	(42)
Semipalmated Sandpiper	43	537	La Salle	(135)	Great Crested Flycatcher	86	1115	Union	(99)
Western Sandpiper	2	4	McLean	(3)	Eastern Kingbird	99	2775	Union	(149)
Least Sandpiper	62*	2780	Richland	(275)	Horned Lark	94*	2361	La Salle	(126)
White-rumped Sandpiper	11	61*	Hancock	(14)	Purple Martin	91	2459	Calhoun	(250)
Baird's Sandpiper	1	6	Henry	(6)	Tree Swallow	92	7742	Cook	(552)
Pectoral Sandpiper	62	1109	Carroll	(200)	No. Rough-winged Swallow	89	4585	Adams	(533)
Dunlin	22*	110	Moultrie	(19)	Bank Swallow	77*	3262	Madison	(362)
Stilt Sandpiper	5#	12*	Union	(5)	Cliff Swallow	63*	3961*	Pulaski	(500)
Short-billed Dowitcher	41*	278	Sangamon	(39)	Barn Swallow	102*	10664	Cook	(472)
Long-billed Dowitcher	4	4	Four counties	(1)	Blue Jay	102*	11561	Du Page	(825)
Common Snipe	27	107	Du Page	(19)	American Crow	102*	11305	Du Page	(980)
American Woodcock	37	123	Lake	(24)	Fish Crow	10	71	Massac	(23)
Wilson's Phalarope	24	65	Douglas	(13)	Black-capped Chickadee	63	3879	Du Page	(429)
Franklin's Gull	3	4	Madison	(2)	Carolina Chickadee	38*	970	Union	(80)
Bonaparte's Gull	10	696	Lake	(617)	Tufted Titmouse	99*	3244	McDonough	(180)
Ring-billed Gull	62*	9973	Cook	(3954)	Red-breasted Nuthatch	9	17	McHenry	(5)
Herring Gull	20	1456	Cook	(671)	White-breasted Nuthatch	96	1854*	Winnebago	(95)
Thayer's Gull	2#	9*	Lake	(*5)	Brown Creeper	28	59	Kankakee	(7)
Iceland Gull	2*	3*	Lake	(#2)	Carolina Wren	76	742	Union	(53)
Lesser Black-backed Gull	2*	8*	Lake	(*6)	House Wren	95	4270	McDonough	(253)
Glaucous Gull	2#	4*	Two counties	(#2)	Winter Wren	6	9	Three counties	(2)
Great Black-backed Gull	1	2	Cook	(2)	Sedge Wren	21	86	Cook	(13)
Caspian Tern	11	416*	Cook	(274)	Marsh Wren	29	240*	De Kalb	(34)
Common Tern	25	668	Lake	(547)	Golden-crowned Kinglet	3	6	Lake	(3)
Forster's Tern	32	840	Lake	(400)	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	67	1784	Cook	(356)
Least Tern	1#	1	Tazewell	(1)	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	87	2398	Union	(159)
Black Tern	29	318	Adams	(73)	Eastern Bluebird	99*	2614	Hamilton	(126)
Rock Dove	96	5270	Cook	(1050)	Veery	73*	906*	Cook	(235)
Mourning Dove	102#	10238	Will	(359)	Gray-cheeked Thrush	67	720*	Cook	(79)
Black-billed Cuckoo	16	31	Jackson	(#15)	Swainson's Thrush	81	1580	Union	(229)
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	33	116	Union	(17)	Hermit Thrush	42	278	Cook	(90)
Eastern Screech-Owl	37	91	Union	(14)	Wood Thrush	93	1214	Union	(93)
Great Horned Owl	79*	375	Two counties	(22)	American Robin	102#	31851	Cook	(1886)
Barred Owl	75	400	Union	(58)	Gray Catbird	100	4625	Cook	(468)

TABLE 6 – Species Accounts for the 1997 Spring Bird Count (continued)

Species	Counties	Birds	HighCounty	(Total)	Species	Counties	Birds	HighCounty	(Total)
Northern Mockingbird	75	809	Edwards	(70)	Scarlet Tanager	73#	341	Union	(63)
Brown Thrasher	101#	3489	McDonough	(170)	Western Tanager	1#	1#	Henderson	(#1)
American Pipit	12	66	Pope	(46)	Northern Cardinal	102#	10706	Du Page	(521)
Cedar Waxwing	44	268	Cook	(35)	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	95#	3441*	Will	(192)
Loggerhead Shrike	34	99	Massac	(10)	Blue Grosbeak	27*	87*	Pope	(*23)
European Starling	102*	27540	Cook	(1785)	Indigo Bunting	101*	4748	Union	(353)
White-eyed Vireo	64#	559	Union	(81)	Dickcissel	74	1384	Jersey	(111)
Bell's Vireo	29*	57	Will	(7)	Eastern Towhee	95	1587	Cook	(81)
Solitary Vireo	53*	302*	Du Page	(*53)	American Tree Sparrow	1	2	Fulton	(2)
Yellow-throated Vireo	66*	440*	Union	(51)	Chipping Sparrow	99*	5553	McDonough	(312)
Warbling Vireo	86*	1224	Madison	(*83)	Clay-colored Sparrow	12*	37*	Lake	(*10)
Philadelphia Vireo	25	43	St. Claire	(5)	Field Sparrow	100*	3435	Will	(217)
Red-eyed Vireo	72	775	Union	(203)	Vesper Sparrow	44	235	Jo Daviess	(34)
Blue-winged Warbler	63*	290*	Cook	(35)	Lark Sparrow	35	259*	Calhoun	(75)
Golden-winged Warbler	55*	235*	Clinton	(25)	Savannah Sparrow	67*	980*	Du Page	(103)
Tennessee Warbler	80	1747	Union	(380)	Grasshopper Sparrow	67	335	Henry	(22)
Orange-crowned Warbler	32	106	Cook	(22)	Henslow's Sparrow	7	17	Union	(5)
Nashville Warbler	83*	2377*	Cook	(314)	Le Conte's Sparrow	3	4	Du Page	(2)
Northern Paula	69*	738*	Union	(77)	Song Sparrow	100*	6506	Du Page	(575)
Yellow Warbler	97*	2919*	Du Page	(331)	Lincoln's Sparrow	41*	353*	Cook	(132)
Chestnut-sided Warbler	72	593	Union	(67)	Swamp Sparrow	67	2501	Cook	(*653)
Magnolia Warbler	71	789	Cook	(108)	White-throated Sparrow	96*	10440	Cook	(*3316)
Cape May Warbler	48	325	Will	(47)	White-crowned Sparrow	95*	2650	Cook	(348)
Black-thrtld Blue Warbler	20	91*	Du Page	(*20)	Harris' Sparrow	7	7	Seven counties	(1)
Yellow-rumped Warbler	100*	17978*	Du Page	(*2754)	Dark-eyed Junco	8	16	Stephenson	(5)
Black-thrtld Green Warbler	71	1569*	Du Page	(*300)	Bobolink	79*	2417	Cook	(174)
Blackburnian Warbler	64	247	Coles	(13)	Red-winged Blackbird	102#	62126	Du Page	(3726)
Yellow-throated Warbler	37	153	Union	(25)	Eastern Meadowlark	99	4841	McDonough	(199)
Pine Warbler	31	93	Pope	(14)	Western Meadowlark	25	126	Jo Daviess	(25)
Prairie Warbler	15	120	Johnson	(27)	Yellow-headed Blackbird	8	125	Lake	(48)
Palm Warbler	96*	13073*	Du Page	(*2021)	Rusty Blackbird	3	3	Three counties	(1)
Bay-breasted Warbler	34	97	Coles	(11)	Brewer's Blackbird	4	16	Lake	(8)
Blackpoll Warbler	66	569	Union	(126)	Common Grackle	102#	35050	Will	(1793)
Cerulean Warbler	37	96	Carroll	(8)	Brown-headed Cowbird	01	8968	Lake	(443)
Black-and-white Warbler	90*	1994*	Du Page	(*310)	Orchard Oriole	75	439	Union	(40)
American Redstart	89*	583	Cook	(142)	Baltimore Oriole	100#	3673	Du Page	(178)
Prothonotary Warbler	68*	454*	Union	(93)	Purple Finch	31	126	Boone	(11)
Worm-eating Warbler	19	71	Two counties	(19)	House Finch	98*	4350	Cook	(248)
Ovenbird	82*	1671*	Cook	(*327)	Red Crossbill	1	6	Mason	(6)
Northern Waterthrush	78*	1581*	Cook	(272)	Pine Siskin	6	21	Cumberland	(10)
Louisiana Waterthrush	63*	203#	Union	(15)	American Goldfinch	100#	13000	Cook	(809)
Kentucky Warbler	54#	277	Union	(63)	House Sparrow	102*	22669	JoDaviess	(1519)
Connecticut Warbler	3	4	Du Page	(2)	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	24	432	Morgan	(76)
Mourning Warbler	8	12	Four counties	(2)	{ Eurasian Collared-Dove	1	1	Du Page	(1)}
Common Yellowthroat	97*	3502	Du Page	(195)	{ Ringed Turtle-Dove	1	8	Will	(8)}
Hooded Warbler	22	41	Union	(6)					
Wilson's Warbler	49	163	Cook	(27)					
Canada Warbler	12	22	Champaign	(6)					
Yellow-breasted Chat	51	335	Union	(75)					
Summer Tanager	45	231*	Union	(63)					

TABLE 7 – County Data

County	Area	Number Species	Number Birds	Number Obs.	Ptys	TIME Start-End	Miles W/D	Hours W/D	Compiler
Adams	3	145	7,321	21	6	*0430-2200*	17/263	23/35	Al Dierkes
Alexander	1	143	2,812	8	3	*0500-2130*	6/232	29/6	Ida Domazlicky
Bond	2	95	2,353	3	1	0600-2030	3/138	5/10	Charley Marbut
Boone	4	131	10,181	25	7	0530-2030	77/322	74/34	Arlene Brei
Brown	3	142	2,336	2	2	0530-1800	8/92	10/3	Michael Ward
Bureau	4	62	569	2	1	0730-1300	3/47	3/3	Steven Shipp
Calhoun	2	140	9,581	12	6	*0420-2330*	11/268	15/41	Liz Hansen
Carroll	4	143	5,892	5	3	*0330-2000	12/275	15/21	Jeffrey Baughman
Cass	3	120	3,221	5	2	*0445-1800	2/196	2/7	Robert Randall
Champaign	3	167	9,817	29	16	*0330-2240*	82/291	93/17	Beth Chato
Christian	2	138	3,370	8	5	*0400-2030	22/219	27/5	Clark Olson
Clark	2	95	4,188	14	9	0600-2230*	18/197	19/22	Donna Clem
Clay	2	81	2,485	1	1	0600-1700	2/120	2/9	Terry Esker
Clinton	2	161	5,842	10	7	0530-2000	39/283	40/13	Dan Kassebaum
Coles	2	138	3,550	22	10	*0415-2010	19/49	45/3	L. Barrie Hunt
Cook	4	194	44,759	125	56	*0300-2200*	203/397	283/32	David Mandell
Crawford	2	126	6,513	28	11	*0430-2100*	+19/475	+23/64	David Schuur
Cumberland	2	124	5,227	9	6	*0430-2400*	+20/127	+29/15	Larry Thorsen
De Kalb	4	128	8,965	16	7	*0445-2130*	34/177	38/8	Darrell Schambaugh
De Witt	3	121	3,346	9	7	0530-2100*	16/211	40/16	L. Miller-Ishmael
Douglas	2	113	3,602	8	3	*0315-2030	+12/188 +	17/13	Ted Funk
Du Page	4	174	31,813	101	28	*0430-2115*	+206/244	+258/15	Bob Fisher
Edgar	2	95	5,276	23	9	0530-2000	17/224	34/40	Mary Ida Riedell
Edwards	1	97	4,716	10	4	0625-2020	6/188	8/28	Elaine Michels
Effingham	2	93	2,240	4	3	0545-2100*	15/112	19/7	Phil Luchtefeld
Fayette	2	104	2,173	10	7	0630-2100*	15/80	26/7	Arthur Jones
Ford	3	69	1,155	3	2	0530-2030	7/16	18/4	Larry David
Franklin	1	148	3,259	2	1	*0500-1900	8/137	9/5	Doug Robinson
Fulton	3	131	4,278	17	6	*0500-2100*	25/458	24/36	Helen Gasdorf
Gallatin	1	108	1,278	1	1	0530-2015	7/83	10/5	Ron Bradley
Greene	2	105	950	6	1	*0455-1450	5/53	6/4	Helen Wuestenfeld
Grundy	4	83	1,633	12	7	0545-1415	19/70	15/16	Robert Crane
Hamilton	1	124	3,835	11	10	*0400-2000	19/309	34/40	Hazel Clark
Hancock	3	131	4,999	12	7	*0400-2330*	19/380	23/39	Barbara Roberts
Hardin	1	74	489	2	1	0815-2050*	4/58	4/6	Elizabeth Raikes
Henderson	3	126	2,292	7	5	*0415-2000	15/135	16/11	Chuck Leib
Henry	4	105	1,610	2	1	*0345-2015	7/113	8/4	Randy Nyboer
Iroquois	3	111	3,093	16	8	0600-2015	12/86	43/6	Robert L. Dannehl
Jackson	1	131	2,212	6	2	*0400-2130*	5/55	6/9	Paul Biggers
Jasper	2	108	712	3	1	*0500-1700	+5/90	+6/3	Scott Simpson

TABLE 7 — County Data (continued)

County	Area	Number		Number		TIME Start-End	Miles W/D	Hours W/D	Compiler
		Species	Birds	Obs.	Ptys				
Jefferson	1	90	1,050	5	3	*0500-1600	9/59	10/11	Bowie Hannah
Jersey	2	121	3,085	10	3	0630-1730	6/104	6/20	Gilbert Ives
Jo Daviess	4	116	13,984	30	7	*0415-1915	25/654	25/64	Grace Storch
Johnson	1	121	2,832	8	3	0530-2000	6/92	15/6	Ray Boehmer
Kane	4	150	15,708	48	25	*0400-1945	76/287	125/28	Robert Montgomery
Kankakee	4	126	3,444	19	5	0600-2000	18/206	26/11	Etta Aubertin
Kendall	4	116	6,220	29	10	0545-2230*	32/344	45/26	Maryann Gossmann
Knox	3	149	4,829	18	13	*0300-2035	29/419	42/32	Michael Baum
Lake	4	194	26,349	51	21	*0200-2300*	+92/313+	104/25	Danny Diaz
La Salle	4	172	18,444	28	12	*0400-2115*	+85/800	+80/46	John McKee
Lawrence	2	80	1,222	2	1	0530-1600	2/100	3/14	Terry Esker
Lee	4	130	3,863	11	5	*0345-2030	12/163	23/20	John Bivins
Livingston	3	110	5,250	37	9	*0515-2020	82/400	73/63	Joe Jobst
Logan	3	98	3,441	17	8	*0515-1945	15/271	27/25	Margaret Lanterman
McDonough	3	142	12,727	74	37	0540-2235*	+96/406	+150/62	Ed Franks
McHenry	4	163	16,976	45	23	*0515-2030	+68/524	+82/50	David Frey
McLean	3	163	10,533	11	6	0600-2000	34/236	39/64	Dale Birkenholz
Macon	3	146	3,811	6	4	*0420-2040	17/148	29/7	Myrna Deaton
Macoupin	2	109	1,595	3	3	*0500-1700	+4/205	+6/18	Michael Sweet
Madison	2	160	8,749	13	8	*0430-1930	+37/327	+53/16	John McCall
Marion	2	52	595	2	1	0700-1730	1/36	4/6	Joe Merkelbach
Marshall	3	99	1,945	5	2	0530-1730	4/225	3/20	Mary Hill
Mason	3	166	8,092	16	7	*0400-2030	37/332	47/18	Richard Bjorklund
Massac	1	164	6,107	10	7	*0100-2000	30/406	44/28	Frank Bennett
Menard	3	125	2,928	4	4	0535-1900	+8/101	+15/15	Michael Morin
Mercer	4	105	1,401	4	2	*0425-2140*	4/124	6/15	Bill Bertrand
Monroe	1	126	2,694	8	4	0700-2015	17/251	25/9	Jeremy Krump
Montgomery	2	112	1,993	4	3	0545-2015	10/110	13/8	Mark Phipps
Morgan	2	144	3,763	8	3	0600-1800	15/268	3/34	Peggy Leverett
Moultrie	2	103	3,111	3	2	0530-1600	8/16	9/2	Robert Cottingham
Ogle	4	142	6,488	23	14	*0400-2230*	37/730	49/30	Mark Swan
Peoria	3	129	4,716	6	3	0520-1930	16/254	18/13	Mike Miller
Perry	1	120	1,138	2	2	0525-2025	+6/25	+13/3	Joey Vancil
Piatt	3	128	3,504	19	13	0540-2000	+30/85	+40/9	Beth Beauchamp
Pike	2	131	7,013	21	6	0600-2010	+5/459	+10/55	Evelyn Hoover
Pope	1	126	2,668	16	7	0530-1920	22/283	25/29	Daniel Spivey
Pulaski	1	107	1,445	1	1	0510-1845	2/114	2/12	Bob Lindsay
Putnam	4	55	392	4	4	0640-1115	5/21	7/1	Brian Loges
Randolph	1	132	6,212	23	9	*0400-2025	16/370	40/12	Ann Sanders
Richland	2	122	5,894	13	7	0530-2015	15/316	21/41	Frank Storment

TABLE 7 – County Data (continued)

County	Area	Number		Number		TIME Start-End	Miles W/D	Hours W/D	Compiler
		Species	Birds	Obs.	Ptys				
Rock Island	4	143	7,988	18	12	*0000-1920	29/477	47/60	Tim Murphy
St. Clair	1	160	7,722	10	6	*0130-2100*	23/423	40/34	Richard Call
Saline	1	125	1,396	6	5	0525-2200*	5/143	14/10	Kathy Phelps
Sangamon	2	154	2,477	2	1	*0400-2030	10/130	10/5	H. David Bohlen
Schuyler	3	80	3,004	56	12	0715-2000	+12/128+	20/21	Harold Hedden
Scott	2	109	2,677	6	2	*0500-1730	5/114	15/6	Steve Tavender
Shelby	2	144	2,571	4	3	*0500-2130*	10/164	11/10	Karen Forcum
Stark	3	29	405	2	1	0600-1600	10/77	5/5	Bobbie Whittle
Stephenson	4	121	3,210	31	7	0600-2200*	52/285	50/6	George Visel
Tazewell	3	108	2,975	4	2	0700-1900	8/92	9/10	Louise Endres
Union	1	178	9,484	12	6	*0000-2045*	39/379	46/36	Vernon Kleen
Vermilion	3	147	8,401	21	14	*0430-2100*	+40/296+	52/30	Marilyn Campbell
Wabash	1	92	1,022	10	7	0530-2000	13/49	27/3	Gary Adams
Warren	3	64	1,386	13	9	0600-1800	16/40	21/5	Lynne Schoonover
Washington	1	101	1,129	10	9	0600-2000	7/43	20/3	Martin Kemper
Wayne	1	56	251	1	1	0620-1700	4/151	4/7	George Rose
White	1	99	1,025	9	7	0600-1930	+9/84	+18/7	Doris Williams
Whiteside	4	125	3,699	16	6	0730-1800	9/319	15/26	Carol Jackey
Will	4	177	23,170	57	24	*0400-2100*	110/723	127/70	Jim Kelly
Williamson	1	143	4,206	15	5	*0420-1730	19/284	19/35	Terry Evans
Winnebago	4	166	16,107	34	117	*0400-2020	+106/470+	107/27	Jack Armstrong
Woodford	3	122	4,646	7	3	0530-1900	10/157	24/10	Brenda Onken

TOTALS: 268 species; 259,014 individual birds; 1,611 observers; 739 parties; 0000-2400 hours birded; 2,620 miles walked/23,070 miles driven; 3,4507 hours walked/2,050 hours driven

W= Walked; D = Driven

Table 7 – Addendum

+ The following “OTHER” party miles and party hours (reported according to prescribed standards for observations made while boating/canoeing, bicycling, feeder watching and other activities) are to be added on to those recorded above.

	Other Party			Other Party			Other Party	
	Miles	Hours		Miles	Hours		Miles	Hours
Crawford	4	4	McDonough	2	2	Pike	7	7
Cumberland	5	4	McHenry	1	1	Schuyler	4	4
Douglas	10	4	Macoupin	1	1	Vermilion	4	4
Du Page	2	3	Madison	4	6	White	17	3
Jasper	1	1	Menard	1	2	Winnebago	6	3
Lake	6	3	Perry	1	1			
La Salle	2	2	Piatt	2	3			

TOTALS

Party Miles Walked	2,620	Party Hours Walked	3,457
Party Miles Driven	23,070	Party Hours Driven	2,050
Party Miles Other	80	Party Hours Other	58
Total Party Miles	25,770	Total Party Hours	5,565

SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS - Spring Migration 1997

Two Individual Arctic Terns on Waukegan Beach

After hearing about a Gull-billed Tern (*Gelochelidon nilotica*) seen at Waukegan Beach in Lake County, Beckie Dyer and I drove there the morning of 31 May 1997. Even though we looked all day for the Gull-billed Tern we did not find it. However, while maintaining the vigil, I spotted a short-legged grayer-looking tern sitting somewhat apart from a flock of 40 to 50 Common Terns (*Sterna turundo*). I alerted Dan Kassebaum, who was standing next to me, and both of us saw that the bird had an all blood-red bill to the tip. This was an Arctic Tern (*S. paradisaea*).

A small group of birders and I noted the following field marks compared with the Common Tern. The gray tern was smaller and less robust. Its legs were shorter and darker red. The bill was slimmer and upon close examination showed no black on the tip. Its head was more rounded and the neck was shorter. The round-headed look was also evident when it flew. There was a well-defined white area between the black cap and the gray of the lower cheek. The tern had a long tail extending well beyond the folded wings, perhaps as much as two inches. The outer vane of the outer tail feather was edged with gray. The underwing had a narrow but well-defined black edge on the primary tips. The upper wing surface lacked the black areas seen on a Common Tern. The folded wing of the Arctic Tern looked frosted while the Common Tern's looked blackish.

The Arctic Tern, which we watched for about one hour through 40 x 60 power Kowa scopes, usually sat alone. It occasionally tried to sit with the Common Terns, but was harassed by Ring-billed Gulls and Common Terns. Several times it flew and landed on the water. I never heard it call.

Arctic Tern, sub-adult, foreground. Compare with Common Tern, sub-adult, in background. The Arctic Tern constitutes the 5th Illinois record. Waukegan Municipal Beach, Lake Co. 14 June 1997. Photo by David B. Johnson.

It was cool at the beach. A brisk northeast wind blew and fog rolled in toward the shore. These conditions attract migrating terns into the beach from Lake Michigan.

A second Arctic Tern (sub-adult) was discovered at Waukegan Beach by Scott Hickman on 14 June 1997. It was seen through 16 June, and had a faint gray carpal bar and dark forehead, indicating it was a different bird from my 31 May sighting. Both individuals were documented with photographs. They represent the fourth and fifth state records of the Arctic Tern.

Illinois' first Arctic Tern, confirmed with photos, was seen on 28 June 1992 at Lake Springfield in Sangamon County. See *Meadowlark* 2:12, "First Illinois Record of the Arctic Tern". Another record occurred on 27 May 1993 at Brandon Road Lock and Dam in Will County. See *Meadowlark* 2:140. The third record was recorded during the Spring Bird Count at Braidwood Lake in Will County on 6 May 1995. See *Meadowlark* 4:140.

The Arctic Tern might prove to be a regular Waukegan Beach visitor if observers check the area in late May or early June when winds are from the northeast.

— H. David Bohlen
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White-Tailed Kite in Urbana

After a long, dreary, and slow-to-arrive spring migration, 8 May 1997 finally held the promise of being a good day. The sky had been relatively clear the night before and a warm front was moving in. Sure enough, when I awoke, I could already hear new arrivals in the trees outside my house. Although I could not get any time off work, I did have the foresight to throw a pair of binoculars into my backpack and leave early to walk to work, arranging my itinerary to include a small park and other areas where landbird migrants congregated. As expected, there were lots of birds around. Even the main quadrangle of the University of Illinois (Champaign County) was loaded with birds.

On my walk home, I continued to observe birds everywhere. At one point, I occupied myself by trying to census orioles and grosbeaks that seemed to be in every tree, and were even making themselves known to the non-birders in the neighborhood.

While watching a Magnolia Warbler that landed in a tree in front of me, I noticed a large shadow passing on the ground. I immediately looked up to see what appeared to be a large whitish bird. "A gull?" I thought. No! It was short-billed, too slender, and long-tailed. Plus, its flight was buoyant and graceful.

"Kite-like," I thought, as my heart began racing.

I quickly raised my binoculars. Despite my initial impression of whiteness, I was expecting the bird to turn out to be the very rare, but plausible, Mississippi Kite,

which has been seen in east-central Illinois in nearby Vermilion, Piatt, and McLean Counties. But my initial impression of the bird's whiteness was correct. The bird, which was gliding low overhead had an all-white tail and underparts, with white wing-linings, dusky primaries, and conspicuous black carpal patches, all of which identified it as an adult White-tailed Kite (*Elanus caeruleus*).

I watched the bird as it gracefully sailed north, then ran after it as it receded into the distance, where I lost sight of it behind the trees.

The White-tailed Kite nests in lowlands, grasslands, and open areas in California (Price et al. 1995), Washington State, Arizona, and New Mexico, as well as coastally in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and south central Florida. Though the bird seemed destined to extinction in the 1930s due to habitat destruction, it has recently been expanding its range and numbers due to new agriculture practices that created habitat for this species. The White-tailed Kite has been seen recently in Knox and Sangamon Counties, Illinois.

Literature Cited

Price, J., S. Droege, and A. Price. 1995. The Summer Atlas of North American Birds. Academic Press. San Diego, CA.

— Robert T. Chapel
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Urbana, IL 61801

Early Stilt in Northern Illinois

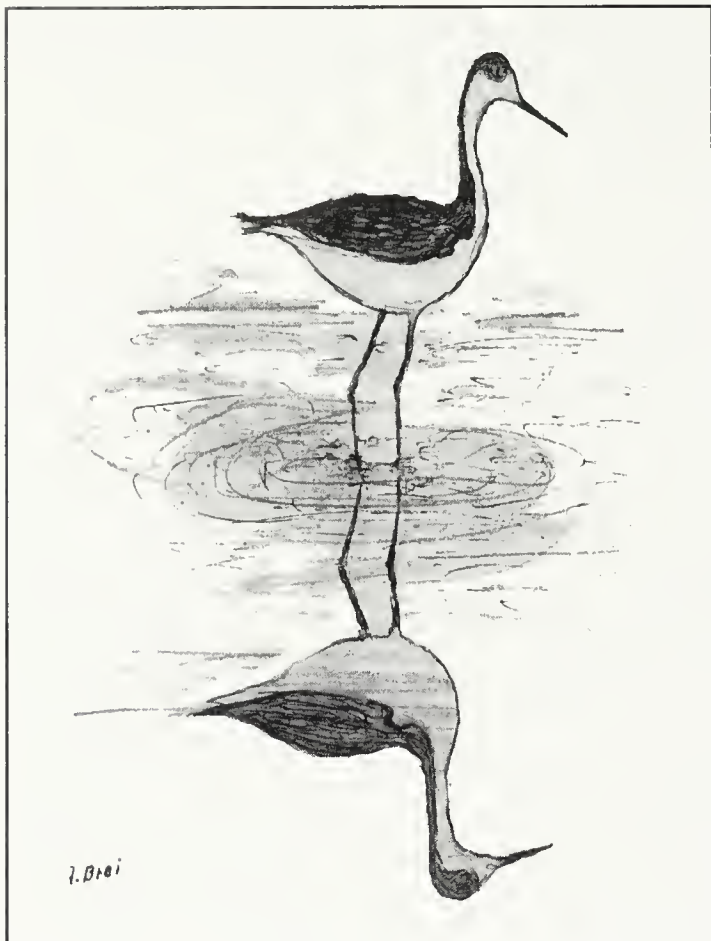
On 21 March 1997, the only bird species on my mind was the Sandhill Crane. My youngest granddaughter, Emily, was celebrating her 7th birthday the next day. I'm the official family whatever-you-want-on-your-birthday-cake-I'll-try maker. Emily wanted a Sandhill Crane in a pond, so that's what I was trying to make. She had originally wanted Mickey Mouse, but when she got off the school bus on 5 March 1997, at least 1,000 Sandhill Cranes flew over our house. Mickey was out. The crane was in.

The phone rang while I was frosting the crane about 2:30 p.m., 21 March. It was Roger Ainsworth, one of the calmest laid-back birders I know. Detecting a rare level of excitement in his voice, I knew it was worth putting the cake on hold. He told me he had just driven past Garden Prairie Slough in Boone County on his way home from work and spotted a Black-necked Stilt. He walked his dog, gathered his camera equipment, and beat it back to

the slough. He also called me. Bless him. I grabbed both Emmy's and my binoculars, got the car, and waited the next few minutes at the top of the driveway for her school bus to arrive.

By 3:15, we were off to the slough, and sure enough, just where Roger had said it would be, stood the stilt. For the most part, the east side of slough is rich loam farmland that in early spring holds copious amounts of sheet water enjoyed by many migrating waterfowl. On this day, one of the few sunny balmy days we are privy to in northern Illinois in March, conditions were perfect. There was no wind, and the sun had moved enough to the west to be almost behind us. All we had to do was pull off the road, roll down the windows, and enjoy.

The only other birds present were many Killdeer. We easily heard the stilt's vocalization, and very vocal it was. Emmy compared his sound to a small puppy.



We watched for about 10 minutes as the bird ambled along, dabbling in the water for food, yipping, ambling, and dabbling some more. Then came the moment! The bird stopped motionless in the water with the almost cloudless blue sky mirrored in it. Emily breathlessly whispered, "Oh look, Gram. There's two of them." It was magic.

A minute later, the bird waded to deeper water, walked onto dry land, preened, then slowly flew up over the road southwest, disappearing into an impenetrable part of the slough. Roger was too late with his camera.

I later learned that Rod Myers of Rockford had the privilege of seeing the bird in the same area that day. But Emily and I had, for a few moments, seen two.

— Arlene Brei
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Editor's Note: 21 March is the earliest arrival date by nearly one month for Red-necked Stilts in northern Illinois. Few records exist from this part of the state.

Black-necked Stilt drawing by Arlene Brei

Purple Gallinule on Lake County Golf Course

A Purple Gallinule (*Porphyryla martinica*) was found dead on 10 April 1997 in Lake County. The discovery was made by a greenskeeper alongside a putting green at Steeplechase Golf Course in Mundelein, Illinois. The specimen was given to a Lake County Forest Preserve District employee who sent it to the Ryerson Woods Conservation Area, the environmental education headquarters for the Lake County Forest Preserves. At press time, the specimen was being held at the conservation area, with plans to present it to the Field Museum of Natural History's permanent bird collection in Chicago.

Cold conditions, lack of food and the long, strange trip to northern Illinois may have contributed to the bird's death.

Bohlen (1989) lists the Purple Gallinule as a rare vagrant in Illinois, and a very rare summer resident in southern Illinois. One of the last records closest to Lake County, Illinois, was a report of a bird in Evanston on 11 and 15 June 1977 (Bohlen 1989).

Literature Cited

Bohlen, H.D. 1989. The birds of Illinois. Indiana University Press. Bloomington, IN.

— Mark J. Hurley, Environmental Educator
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Western Tanager Visits Arlington Heights Puddle

On 18 May 1997, after birding Crabtree Nature Center in Cook County all morning, it started to rain quite heavily. So I started home. I had told my husband I would be gone for a couple of hours, but since I'd been gone all morning, I thought I would make him his favorite brunch - a ham and cheese omelet. We were out of eggs, so my husband offered to go to the store. While he was gone, the rain let up, so I decided to do a little birding on my front driveway. There was quite a fall-out. Warblers were everywhere. I was joined by my neighbor, Cindy Benchuck

at about 12:15 p.m. She also noticed the abundance of warblers flitting about. Just as Cindy walked up, I said: "Now what do we have here?" A bird, slightly larger than the warblers, flew out of the maple tree in my front yard down to a puddle of water at the end of the driveway. I watched this bird drinking at the curb, between 15 and 20 feet away. This beautiful yellow bird with a bright, orange-red head, black wings and white wing bar was a Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*). I had seen the species while birding in California.

We were joined a few minutes later by Joe Fahey, one of the neighbor children, who is a budding birder. I was so happy that I was able to share this chance sighting with him. He declared it the most beautiful bird he had ever seen. The bird continued to drink at the puddle for a few minutes, then flew into the maple tree, where he remained for another ten minutes. He then flew across the street to Cindy's yard, where she observed him for another 20 minutes.

Bohlen (1989) lists this species as a rare vagrant in Illinois, seen only 11 times in the state between 1916 and

1955. A Western Tanager was seen in Illinois in 1992, and then not again until 1996 (Meadowlark 5:155).

Literature Cited

Bohlen. H.D. 1989. The birds of Illinois. Indiana University Press. Bloomington, IN.

Meadowlark, A Journal of Illinois Birds. Field Notes Spring Migration. Vol. 5 No. 4. 1996.

— Joan Bruchman
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Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Kane County Kittiwake

My phone rang at about 10 p.m. on Saturday, 3 May 1997. Mike Madsen called to say that two Marbled Godwits had been seen throughout the day in a flooded field in Kane County. We decided to skip the usual May weekend warbler search and try for the godwits, a species I had seen only once in northern Illinois during my 12 years of birding.

I next called Rick Seibert to tell him about the change in plans. By 7 a.m. on 4 May, the three of us were out looking for the godwits. After about an hour of trying to turn Greater Yellowlegs into godwits, a task made harder by the color of their legs, we were forced to admit the godwits had left the fields around the Dundee Middle School. We were about to leave after counting six Killdeer, nine Greater and 18 Lesser Yellowlegs, one Pectoral Sandpiper, and 15 Common Snipes. But then a small- to medium-sized gull flew over the wet field. Naturally, the gull was totally backlit by the sun, so no markings were visible. It then landed in a spot that necessitated us looking directly into the sun. Mike thought it might be a Bonaparte's Gull, due to the wing pattern he could see, but Rick thought it was more Ring-billed Gull sized.

We managed to position ourselves so that the sun was no longer a problem, but then the gull decided to fly again. It circled twice and landed in approximately the same spot it had just left. We saw the "M" on the upper wings, but couldn't be sure that it had a trailing edge on the wing, like a Bonaparte's Gull would have while molting. I thought I could see part of a black collar, but decided a May Kittiwake in a farm field was asking too much. We tried to see leg color, but the gull was now standing in water up to its body, which made it hard to tell if it even had legs, let alone what color they were. While we tried to figure out how to convince the gull to stand on dry land, the gull did just that, although the land it was now standing on was behind a ridge. We still couldn't see the leg color. This was proving to be a very difficult bird!

Finally, our problems were solved by four Ring-billed Gulls which landed nearby and caused the problem gull to move away from them to a place where we could see it much better. It had black legs! Now that the secret was out, the gull became much more cooperative. It flew around two or three times, giving us good looks at the "M" on the upper wings, which did not have a trailing edge, and the black collar, which was full-sized, although no longer solid black because new feathers were coming in.

The bird was roughly equivalent in size to the Ring-billed Gulls, clearly too large for a Little or Bonaparte's Gull. Its bill had changed to mostly yellow, with a few black areas remaining. Because of the bill color, the new, non-black feathers in the "M" on the wings and the black collar, we felt that this Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) was changing from first winter to first summer plumage.

Bohlen (1989) lists the Black-legged Kittiwake as a rare migrant and winter resident in Illinois, noting that the immature plumage is more distinctive than the adult, and that practically all kittiwakes observed in Illinois are immatures. Spring records are much fewer than fall; recent records include one seen at Rend Lake in southern Illinois on 5 April 1987 (Bohlen 1989).

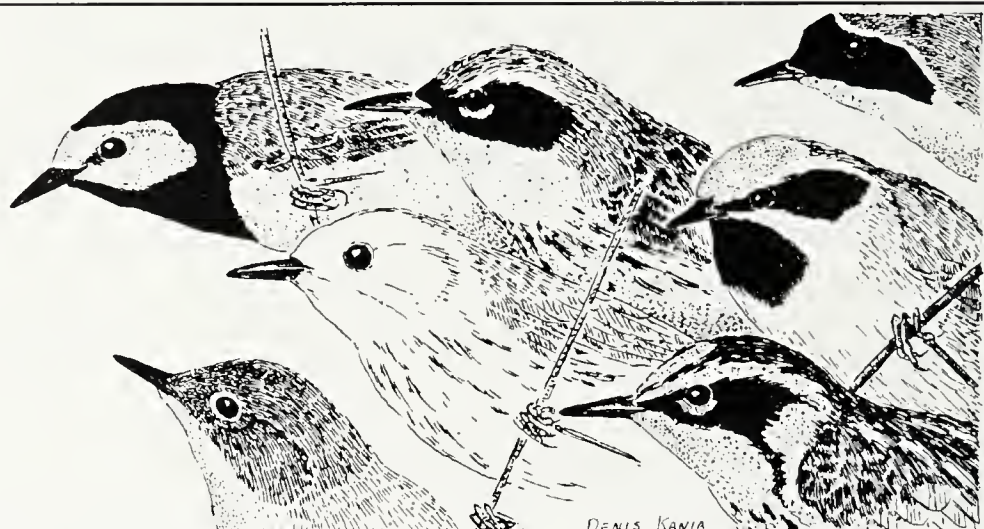
As a veteran November gull watcher at Gillson Park along Lake Michigan (Cook County), I've seen my share of Kittiwakes, but this was my first in spring and my first away from Lake Michigan. We did not find the Marbled Godwits, but as the Rolling Stones once sang, "You can't always get what you want, but if try real hard, you get what you need."

Literature Cited

Bohlen. H.D. 1989. The birds of Illinois. Indiana University Press. Bloomington, IN.

— Alan Stokie
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Park Ridge, IL 60068

Field Notes



Field notes drawing of spring warblers by Denis Kania.

The 1997 Spring Migration

By Paul Clyne

Spring 1997 was unusually cold and wet in Illinois. It was accordingly an excellent season for hardy water birds, but uninspiring for the more fragile insectivores. Healthy passages of waterfowl, blackbirds, and other early migrants in March gave way to a gradual, mostly uneventful movement of passerines in April and early May. By mid-May, many observers had virtually written off the season entirely, but some remarkable tallies of songbirds were nonetheless obtained, mostly in the second half of May.

Unusually high water levels were initiated the third week of February, and by early March areas statewide suffered some of their most devastating floods. The most severe rainfall came early, but water levels remained extremely high throughout the season. Some traditional birding sites were effectively washed out, e.g., Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge in Mason County and Heyworth Lagoons in McLean County. At other sites, the wet weather increased the available habitat for water birds, so that statewide, water birds were well represented.

March temperatures showed the expected roller-coaster pattern of highs and lows, although the northern tier of Illinois was buffeted by cold fronts not experienced downstate. April suffered persistent northerly fronts and lingering high pressure systems which had a strikingly negative impact on the progress of the passerine migration. The few warm fronts in April were too short-lived to initiate large-scale migration. At Chicago's Jackson Park, e.g., the number of species seen to date by the end of April was 22 species behind the average for the preceding three years, despite the fact that the month began with the highest number of species to date.

May continued the pattern of chilly weather. Unfortunately for Illinois birders, most of the state was blanketed by some of the coldest temperatures in the country at mid-May, while areas just east and west of Illinois were basking in southerly fronts. The nation's weather map seemed well-suited to migration, except through Illinois. All-time record

lows were set on 16 May for Chicago, Springfield, and Rockford - the last being the coldest at 29°F. As late as 22 May, lows at Chicago were still in the 30's.

Avian fallouts this spring were modest. At Chicago, the timing of front collisions was not conducive to dramatic numbers of nocturnal migrants, since most of the high and low pressure systems interfaced very late in the day and resulted in overnight rains. The most widespread heavy influx was reported as 8 May at both Chicago and Urbana. Additional good passages were reported 17-21 May, but movements over these dates were highly localized. The last major push was registered on 30 May at Grant Park, Chicago. The late onset to migration led to unusually high species diversity continuing into June.

Some trends among groups of birds may be noted. Waterfowl numbers were generally high, especially among geese and dabbling ducks, although deep-water diving ducks were poorly reported. Highlights include another record-breaking year for Greater White-fronted Geese, a **Brant** at Chicago, and two **Cinnamon Teals**.

As a group, shorebirds were perhaps the most successful migrants of the season, with exceptional diversity for spring and strong numbers from various sites, although some traditional haunts were too flooded to offer habitat. Perhaps the large amounts of water created new habitat in the form of flooded farm fields which the birds used. Gulls were most remarkable for the large number of "winter" species lingering in surprising numbers well into May. Note also the occurrence of two **kittiwakes** this spring, both at inland locations (see seasonal highlights).

Terns stole the show in the last two days of May, when Illinois' first confirmed **Gull-billed Tern** was followed by an **Arctic Tern** the next day at the same site. A different **Arctic Tern** was found on the same beach in June. (See separate stories and highlights for details on these terns.)

The passerine migration was generally slow and late, with few surprises other than a large number of late departure dates. Indeed, the near-absence of vagrant songbirds was among the most disappointing aspects of the spring. The most noteworthy among the few documentations of passerines received was an uncooperative **Western Tanager**.

Most observers reported warblers in normal to low numbers, although Doug Stotz of Chicago's Field Museum tallied an impressive passage at Thatcher Woods in River Forest on 17 May. Sparrow highlights included another strong showing by Clay-colored and record numbers of Lincoln's Sparrows. It was not a flight-year for winter finches.

Other rarities include Illinois' third **White-tailed Kite** (see seasonal highlight), the first **Purple Gallinule** (see seasonal highlight) in a decade, and an extremely early **Black-necked Stilt** in the north.

The foundation of this summary is the detailed information on migration limits and populations as submitted directly to the compiler (or indirectly via the Illinois Department of Natural Resources) by field observers statewide. Information not submitted is not included. For example, reports communicated to local coordinators of taped bird-alerts, reports posted on e-mail, and reports transmitted by word of mouth to another observer are generally lacking here.

Our sincere thanks is extended to the following observers, who supplied all the data for the summary. These observers are credited by their initials following each record. For observers sharing the same initials, we have included either a middle initial or a distinctive second letter in the last name for each citation, thereby eliminating ambiguity. As in previous reports, the sequencing of observers below is based on alphabetization of initials or citation forms rather than on alphabetization of last names.

Cindy Alberico, Douglas Anderson, Arlene Brei, Carl Becker, Dale Birkenholz (DBi), David Brooks (DBr), David Bohlen, Joan Bruchman, Mike Bowers (MBo), Renee Baade (RBA), Robert Bezouska (RBe), Richard Biss, Richard Bjorklund (RBj), Ray Boehmer (RBo), Steve Bailey, Sigurd Bjorklund (SBj), Todd Bugg, Elizabeth Chato, Karin Cassel, Paul Clyne, Robert Chapel, Scott Carpenter (SCa), Scott Cohrs (SCo), Victor Castle, Donald Dann (DDa), Danny Díaz, Glyn & Sylvia Dawson (G&SDa), Judy De Neal, Myrna Deaton, Sheryl De Vore, Tim Dever, Josh Engel, Carolyn Fields, Darlene Fiske, Matt Fraker, Robert Fisher, Sue Friscia, Brad Grover, Althea Hopper, Dee Hennig, Frank Holmes, Jim Hampson, Kay Hanson (KHa), Kanae Hirabayashi (KHi), Barrie Hunt, Larry L. Hood, Robert Hines (RHl), Ralph Hopper (RHo), Robert Hughes, Scott

As a printing aide, the following abbreviations have been used throughout this report:

EA = Earliest Arrival(s)	imm = immature	IORC = Illinois Ornithological Records Committee
MC = Maximum Count(s)	Co(s) = County (Counties)	L = Lake
LD = Latest Departure(s)	CA = Conservation Area	L&D = Lock & Dam
* = documented record	FP = Forest Preserve	NC = Nature Center
ph. = photographed	FWA = Fish and Wildlife Area	NWR = National Wildlife Refuge
m.ob = many observers	IL = Illinois	SP = State Park
ad. = adult	INHS census = IL Natural	SWA = State Wildlife Area
subad. = subadult	History Survey aerial census	WMA = Wildlife Management Area

Atwood = Atwood Ridge (Union Co)
 Carl.L = Carlyle Lake (Clinton, Fayette, Bond Cos)
 CBG = Chicago Botanic Garden (Cook Co)
 CCNWR = Cypress Creek NWR (Pulaski Co)
 Clin.L = Clinton Lake (De Witt Co)
 Chi = Chicago lakefront parks (except Jackson Park, Cook Co)
 COLSP = Chain O' Lakes SP (Lake Co)
 CONWR = Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co)
 DeerG = Deer Grove East FP (Cook Co)
 EStL = East St. Louis (St. Clair Co)
 Fishhook = Fishhook WMA (Moultrie Co)
 Fermi = Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Du Page Co)
 Fremont = Fremont Center (Lake Co)
 Heron Pond = Heron Pond NP (Johnson Co)
 Heyworth = Heyworth Lagoons area (McLean Co)
 HL = Horseshoe Lake SP (Madison Co)
 IBSP = Illinois Beach State Park (Lake Co)
 JP = Jackson Park, Chicago (Cook Co)
 KCP = Kennekuk Cove Park (Vermilion Co)
 LaSalle = La Salle Lake FWA (La Salle Co)

LCal = Lake Calumet (Cook Co)
 LChau = Chautauqua NWR (Mason Co)
 LMich. = Lake Michigan (Cook and Lake Cos)
 Mackinaw = Mackinaw River State FWA (Tazewell Co)
 Middlefork = Middlefork River FP (Champaign Co)
 Miss.R = Mississippi River
 M.View = Moraine View SP (McLean Co)
 M.Arb = Morton Arboretum, Lisle (Du Page Co)
 MTNWR = Mark Twain NWR (Calhoun Co)
 Oakwood = Oakwood Bottoms (Jackson Co)
 Palos = Palos F.P. (southwest Cook Co)
 Pecat = Pecos (Winnebago Co)
 RCA = Ryerson CA (Lake Co)
 SaugetM = Sauget Marsh (St. Clair Co)
 Santa Fe = Santa Fe Bottoms (Clinton Co)
 Spfld = Springfield (Sangamon Co)
 SRSP = Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co)
 TWFP = Thatcher Woods FP (Cook Co)
 UCCA = Union Co CA (Union Co)
 Wauk = Waukegan (Lake Co)

Transparent directionals such as, ea. = east(ern), ne. = northeast(ern), so. = south(ern), etc., are used where relevant. When information on counts greater than one, on sexes, and/or on ages of birds observed is available, it is generally included in parentheses after the date of the record. Headings for species requiring IORC review, and species of extremely unusual occurrence in IL in spring, appear in **CAPITALIZED, UNDERLINED, AND BOLDFACED** fonts. Extremely early/late dates and remarkably high counts for the state as a whole or for the three particular regions of the state (no., ce., so.) are **underlined and boldfaced**, and some further editorial remarks are **boldfaced**.

Hickman Dave Irons, Bessie Jones, David Johnson, Mike Jacob, Roger Jensen, Thomas Jackman, Dan Kassebaum, Gretchen Knapp, Vernon Kleen, C. Leib, Dennis Lane, Greg Lambeth, James Landing, Cynthia & John McKee (C&JMc), David Mandell, Dan Miller, Igal Milchtaich, Keith A. McMullen, Kelly J. McKay (KMy), Mary Mendlen, Richard Messenger (RMe), Rod Myers (RMy), Tom Morgensen, Walter Marcisz, Michael Narish, Edward O'Brien, John O'Brien, Brock Price, Helen Parker, James Phillips (JPh), Jack Pomatto (JPo), John Purcell (JPu), Peter Petersen, Ann Ronvik, Jennette Rader, Marjory Rand (MRa), Michael Retter (MRe), Robert Randall, Al Seppi (ASe), Alan Stokie, Cody Smout, Darrell Shambaugh, Douglas Stotz (DSt), Gerda Schild, J. O. Smith, Janice Sweet (JSw), Malcolm

FIELD NOTES –SPRING 1997

Red-throated Loon

One report: 23 May-24 June (but probably present since 13 May) (im.) Tampier Lake, Palos (*JL, *MN, m.ob., ph — TJ, JPH) **record late date** (previous late date is 20 May 1931). For a photo and details on this record, see seasonal highlights in the next issue of *Meadowlark*, Vol. 7 No. 1.

Common Loon

EA: 14 Mar, CONWR (KM); 15 Mar, Clin.L (RC); 22 Mar (7), Lake Co (DJ). MC: 60 (31 on Long Lake alone), COLSP, 29 Mar (DJ); 11, Clin.L, 29 Mar (RC). LD: **31 May-1 Jun**, Homer Lake (Champaign Co) (JSm, RC); 27 May, Heyworth (MF); 26 May, Tampier Lake, Palos (CA); 14 May (ad.), Wauk (EW); 10 May, LaSalle (C&JMc); 10 May (5 ad.), Wilmette (EW); 8 May, Mermet L CA (VK, DB).

Pied-billed Grebe

EA: 21 Feb, Coles Co (BH); 11 Mar, JP (PC). MC: 36, M.View, 13 Apr (C&JMc); 35, COLSP, 29 Mar (DJ); 27, CONWR, 19 Apr (KM). LD: 18 May, JP (PC); 8 May, Carl.L (KM); 4 May, Heyworth (MF).

Horned Grebe

EA: 17 Feb (22), Baldwin Lake (St. Clair/Randolph Cos) (KM); 26 Feb, JP (PC). MC: 30, COLSP, 29 Mar (DJ); 27, HL, 20 Mar (KM); 18, LaSalle, 9 Mar (C&JMc); 9, Chi, 16 Mar (JL). LD: 18 May, Heyworth (MF); 10 May (3), LaSalle (C&JMc); 7 May, McKee Marsh (Du Page Co) (EW).

Red-necked Grebe

One report: 25 Apr, El Paso (Livingston Co) (RC).

Eared Grebe

EA: 3-19 Mar, HL (JV); 22 Mar, Calumet Park, Chi (IM, EW); 29 Mar, Clin.L (RC); 12 Apr, Chi (JL); 13 Apr, Arcola (GL, RC). MC: 4, **Rock Cut SP**, 13 Apr (DW) - 1st Winnebago county record. LD: 3-10 May, Carman (Henderson Co) (CL); 16-19 May, Lakeland Park (Fulton Co) (KW); 19-27 Apr, CONWR, (KM, DK, JD); 26 Apr (3), Rock Cut SP (BG).

American White Pelican

EA: 15 Mar (255), UCCA (KM); 28 Mar (222), Union Co (PSw, JSw). MC: 700, Carl.L, 23 Mar-12 Apr (DK); 381, LChau, 3 Apr (RBj, SBj); 53, MTNWR, 25 Mar (VK, DB). LD: 28 May (2), Carl.L (DK); 10 May, Adams Co (KV); 27 Apr (20), Union Co (KM).

Double-crested Cormorant

EA: 6 Mar (6), Carl.L (DK); 27 Mar, Evanston (EW). MC: **5000**, Rend L Dam, 11 Apr (C&JMc) - record spring high count; **1800+**, Riverdale (Cook Co), 10 May (JL); 631, JP, 10 May (KC, PC); 506, LChau, 18 Apr (RBj, SBj); 500, Carl.L, 19 Apr & 7 May (DK & KM). LD: 24 May (95 migrating), Evanston (EW).

American Bittern

EA: 27 Mar, Oakwood (DK); 28 Mar, Rantoul (RC); 16 Apr, Chi (JL). LD: 20 May, Deer L (Lake Co) (SD, DJ, RBa); 10 May, Mahomet (GL, RC et al.); 26 Apr, Oakwood (KM). Widely reported as ones and twos.

Sargent (MSa), Mary Sidney (MSi), Paul Sweet (PSw), Thomas Schulenberg, Tom Smith (TSm), Wesley Serafin, Craig Thayer, Michael Teller, Rick Tietjen-Wright, Timothy Tiedje, Janet Underwood, Jack Van Benthuyzen, Ken Vail, Charles Westcott (CWe), Christine Williamson, Daniel Williams, Eric Walters, Geoffrey Williamson, Kevin Wright, Larry Willis, Mike Ward, Pat Ward, Jody Zamirowski

In addition to the above individuals, some results of the Illinois Natural History Survey's aerial census of waterfowl are included as the last entry of maximum counts for applicable species. For some of these entries, large subtotals from specific sites are included in parentheses. A note of special thanks is due to David Johnson and Vernon Kleen for their valuable assistance in resolving particular questions..

Least Bittern

EA: 5 May, Saline Co (KM, DK, JD); 8 May, Chi (WS, EW, m.ob); 13 May, Arcola (RC). LD: 30 May, Wauk (EW, RB) - being attacked in flight by gulls and blackbirds; 25 May (nesting?), Mermet L CA (KM et al.).

Great Blue Heron

EA: 18 Feb, JP (PC) - record early arrival for site; 27 Feb, Adams Co (KV). MC: 95, LChau, 16 May (RBj, SBj); 75, Carl.L, 3 May (DK).

Great Egret

EA: 15 Mar (3), Frank Holten SP (St. Clair Co) (DK); 23 Mar, LCal (JL). MC: 150, EstL, 10 Apr (DK); 45, McGinnis Slough, 28 May (WS). LD: 14 May (2), O'Hare Airport (DDa); 10 May, Pecat (DW).

Snowy Egret

EA: 7 Apr, SaugetM (JV); 8 May, CBG (fide EW); 8 May, Clin.L (MD). MC: 30, SaugetM, 22 May (DK); 10, SaugetM, 28 Apr (KM).

Little Blue Heron

EA: 26 Mar, HL (JV); 28 Mar (9), SaugetM (KM); 6 Apr (ad.), Cisco (Piatt Co) (MD); 20 Apr (ad.), Arcola (MD). MC: 50, EstL, 10 Apr (DK); 19, St. Clair Co, 11 Apr (KM). LD: 10-17 May (ad.), LCal (RHo, AHo, WM); 11 May (2), Mahomet (GL, RC).

Cattle Egret

EA: 27 Mar (5), St. Clair Co (KM); 5 Apr, Boone Co (AB). MC: 100, no. of Fithian (Vermilion Co), 19 Apr (JSm). LD: 26 May (2), Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie (WS); 1 May, Decatur (Macon Co) (MD).

Green Heron

EA: 12 Apr, CONWR (KM); 19 Apr, KCP (SB et al.); 21 Apr, Rockford (BG). MC: 10, JP, 8 May (PC). LD: 24 May (2 migrating), JP (KC).

Black-crowned Night-Heron

EA: 20 Mar, HL (KM); 28 Mar, LCal (WM); 13 Apr, Normal (MF); 13 Apr, Arcola (m.ob, RC). MC: 613, evening dispersal from LCal, 10 May (WM); 45, SaugetM, 22 May (DK). LD: 10 May, UCCA (MBo, VK).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

EA: 21 Apr (4), SaugetM (DK); 10 May (ad.), LCal (WM). LD: 28 May, SaugetM (DK); 26 May (ad.), JP (PC). Few reports.

Tundra Swan

EA: 22 Feb (5), Santa Fe (DK); 14 Mar, Griswold Lake (McHenry Co) (RBa). MC: 12, Santa Fe, 19 Mar (DK). LD: 23 Mar (3), Santa Fe (DK); 16 Mar, Lake Zurich (Lake Co) (DJ). Others: 23 Mar, Middlefork (RC).

Mute Swan

EA: 9 Mar, Urbana (RC). Others: 25 (from wintering flock), Wolf L CA, 1 Mar (WM). LD: 11-28 Apr, Frank Holten SP (St. Clair Co) (KM); 16 Apr, Evanston (EW). Several records of small flocks in late

winter and early spring, primarily in ne. IL, probably due to local movement after melting of ice.

Greater White-fronted Goose

EA: 22 Feb (6), near Pocat (DW); 22 Feb (25), Heyworth (MF); 22 Feb (**600+**), Clin.L (RC). MC: **1200**, Clin.L, 1 Mar (MD); 251, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 20 Mar (PP, KMy); **212**, Glacial Park (McHenry Co), 14 Mar (RBa); 48, so. Clinton Co, 20 Mar (KM); 25, Fermi, 2 Mar (JPo); 24, Wildwood (Lake Co), 4-5 Mar (SH,DJ). LD: **25-28 May** (amid flock of lingering Snow Geese), Carl.L (DK); **10 May** (2), Heyworth (MF, TB). **Widely reported in large numbers.** New record high count and 2nd latest spring date, following trend of recent years.

Snow Goose

EA: 22 Feb (8), near Pocat (DW); 22 Feb, Heyworth (MF, TB); 22 Feb, Clin.L (RC); 4 Mar (2), Wildwood (Lake Co) (EW); 4 Mar (4), Kane Co (DS). MC: 3000, Carl.L, 19 Mar (DK); 2000, Adams Co, 27 Feb (KV); 68, near Pocat, 2 Mar (DW). INHS census, 3-4 Mar: 8040 (5000, Swan Lake (St. Charles Co); 1400, HL). LD: 28 Apr-**28 May** (10), Carl.L/FAY (DK, KM) - a flock of possibly injured birds.

Ross' Goose

EA: 13 Feb, **Moline** (Rock Island Co) (CL); 22 Feb, Clin.L (RC); 2 Mar, near Pocat (DW). MC: 9, Santa Fe, 27 Mar (DK). LD: 2 Apr-**10 May** (ad.), **Schaumburg** (Cook Co) (MM, GW, *DBr, m.ob, ph.) - 2nd Cook Co record; 26 Mar, Rantoul (BP, *RC, EC); 22 Mar, Clin.L (MD). Others: 2 Mar, **Urbana** (RC) - first Champaign Co record; 9 Mar (2), **LaSalle** (C&JMc); 11 Mar (ad.), Winnebago Co (BG); 14 Mar, **College of Lake Co** (SH) - 2nd Lake Co record.

BRANT

One report: 5 Apr, JP (RMe, *CA, m.ob). Fifth IL spring record, 2nd for JP.

Canada Goose

EA: 18 Feb (104), JP (PC); 22 Feb (700), Heyworth (MF). MC: 900, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 20 Mar (PP, KMy); 700, Heyworth, 22 Feb (MF). INHS census, 3-4 Mar: 8,920. LD: 27 Apr (small race), JP (PC).

Wood Duck

EA: 19 Feb (2), Washington Co (KM); 22 Feb, M.View (RC); 23 Feb (5), De Kalb Co (DS). MC: 45, Monroe Co, 25 Mar (KM); 40, LChau, 10 Apr (RBj, SBj); 30, JP, 9 Apr and 25 Apr (PC). LD: 22 May, Evanston (EW).

Green-winged Teal

EA: 15 Feb, Carl.L (KM); 22 Feb, M.View (RC); 12 Mar, La Salle Co (JH). MC: **10,000**, Carl.L, 29 Mar (DK) - record spring high count; **1500**, Stump Lake (Calhoun Co), 25 Mar (DB, VK); 300, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 25 Mar (PP). INHS census, 3-4 Mar: 2220 (1500, Spoon River Bottoms/Emiquon (Fulton Co)). LD: 25 May, Carl.L (DK); 20 May, Antioch (Lake Co) (DJ). Hybrid Green-winged Teal x Northern Pintail: 4-5 Apr, Carl.L (DK, ph. - ASe).

American Black Duck

EA: 15 Feb (8), Carl.L (KM); 22 Feb, Clin.L (RC); 5 Mar (4), Lake Co (SH). INHS census, 3-4 Mar: 1020 (1000, CCNWR). LD: 15-17 May (male), Fremont (EW, m.ob); 14 Apr, Union Co (KM).

Mallard

EA: 18 Feb (32), JP (PC). MC: 11,290, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 20 Mar (PP, KMy); 1400, Clinton Co, 20 Mar (KM). INHS census, 3-4 Mar: 92,970 (33,000, Spoon River Bottoms/Emiquon (Fulton Co)).

Northern Pintail

EA: 1 Feb (150), UCCA (KM); 22 Feb, Clin.L (RC); 25 Feb, De Kalb Co (DS). MC: 1800, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 20 Mar (PP, KMy); 500, Carl.L, 19 Mar (DK). INHS census, 3-4 Mar: 8,555 (2800, Sanganois SWA (Mason Co)). LD: 10 May (pair), Middlefork (GL, RC et al.). Hybrids: See Green-winged Teal and Northern Shoveler.

Blue-winged Teal

EA: 10 Mar, Carl.L (DK); 20 Mar, Adams Co (KV); 21 Mar (3), JP

(PC). MC: 300, CCNWR, 1 Apr (KM); 300, Carl.L, 9 Apr (DK). LD: 6 Jun (3), JP (PC); 24 May (3), CCNWR (KM).

Cinnamon Teal

Two reports. EA: 29-30 Mar (male), Carl.L (*DK, photo - ASe). LD: 4 May (male), Swan Lake area (Calhoun Co) (*RR). **Hybrid Northern Shoveler x Cinnamon Teal:** 23 Mar (male), Santa Fe (DK): "an adult drake 'shoveler' with a green head and an all 'rust' colored body".

Northern Shoveler

EA: 7 Feb (24), HL (KM); 22 Feb, Clin.L (RC); 12 Mar, La Salle Co (JH). MC: 880, Pulaski Co, 1 Apr (KM); 630, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 25 Mar (PP); 600, Massac Co, 22 Mar (KM). INHS census, 3-4 Mar: 1540 (1500, CCNWR). LD: 24 May (male), sw. Jackson Co (C&JMc); 20 May, Wauk (EW); 18 May (7), Carl.L (KM). Hybrid Northern Pintail x Northern Shoveler: 19-28 Apr, Carlyle Sewage Pond (Clinton Co) (DK, ph. - ASe). See also Cinnamon Teal.

Gadwall

EA: 15 Feb (4), Carl.L (KM); 22 Feb, M.View (RC); 24 Feb (3), Cherry Valley (Winnebago Co) (BG). MC: 680, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 25 Mar (PP); 400, Carl.L, 10 Mar (DK). INHS census, 3-4 Mar: 2370 (1300, Spoon River Bottoms/Emiquon (Fulton Co)). LD: 23 May, Heyworth (MF); 18 May, Mendota (C&JMc). Others: 79, Palos/Orland Park (Cook Co), 29 Mar (WS).

American Wigeon

EA: 1 Feb (10), UCCA (KM); 22 Feb, M.View (RC); 6 Mar (2), Miss.R (Rock Island Co) (PP); 12 Mar (pair), JP (PC). MC: 385, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 25 Mar (PP); 100, Carl.L, 19 Mar (DK). INHS census, 3-4 Mar: 1825 (1000, Spoon River Bottoms/Emiquon (Fulton Co)). LD: 17 May (male), Wildwood (Lake Co) (EW); 10 May, Heyworth (MF, TB); 10 May, Middlefork (RC, GL et al.); 5 May (2), CCNWR (KM, DK, JD).

Canvasback

EA: 7 Feb (100), L&D#26 (Madison Co) (KM); 22 Feb, Clin.L (RC); 28 Feb, L&D#14 (Rock Island Co) (CL); 5 Mar (3), Lake Co (SH, DJ). MC: **5066**, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 20 Mar (PP, KMy); 300, Carl.L, 16 Mar (DK); 230, HL, 28 Feb (KM); 200, La Salle, 16 Mar (VK, C&JMc, JH). INHS census, 3-4 Mar: 33,600 (29,100, Miss.R (Hancock Co)). LD: **27 May**, L&D#14 (Rock Island Co) (CL); 11 May (male), MTNWR (VK); 19 Apr, Butler Lake (Lake Co) (DJ); 14 Apr, Union Co (KM).

Redhead

EA: 15 Feb (6), Carl.L (KM); 23 Feb (5), JP (PC); 1 Mar (20), Clin.L (RC). MC: 127, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 20 Mar (PP, KMy); 120, HL, 28 Feb (KM). LD: 16-20 May (pr.), White Lake (Lake Co) (RHu, m.ob.); 10 May, Middlefork (HP, RC et al.); 1 Apr (2), Union Co (KM).

Ring-necked Duck

EA: 19 Feb (9), JP (PC); 19 Feb (205), HL (KM); 22 Feb, Clin.L (RC); 22 Feb (9), Heyworth (MF). MC: 2302, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 20 Mar (PP, KMy); 1092, LChau, 29 Mar (RBj, SBj); 1000, HL, 28 Feb (KM). INHS census, 3-4 Mar: 14,395 (6800 (Hancock Co); 2800, Stump Lake (Calhoun Co); 2400, Rend L.) LD: 26-28 May (male), McGinnis Slough (EW, WS); 26 May (female), Middlefork (RC); 12 May (5), HL (KM, DK). Others: wintering female stayed thru spring, Wilmette (EW, m.ob.).

Greater Scaup

EA: 18 Feb (12), JP (PC); 22 Feb, Clin.L (RC). MC: 250, Evanston, 27 Mar (EW). LD: 20 May, IBSP (DJ, SD, RBa, EW); 10 May (3), Evanston (EW, IM); 19 Apr, Danville (DI et al.). Other: 10 Mar, Carlyle Sewage Pond (Clinton Co) (DK). Poor numbers at LMch.

Lesser Scaup

EA: 24 Jan (15), HL (KM); 18 Feb (male), JP (PC). MC: 8100, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 20 Mar (PP, KMy); 1700, Clinton Co, 20 Mar (KM). LD: 27 May (3), Mendota (JH); 27 May, Heyworth (MF, TB); 8 May (8), Mernmet L CA (VK, DMi).

Harlequin Duck

One report: 28 Apr-**25 May** (female), Wilmette/Evanston (EW, m.ob) - 2nd latest spring record for IL.

Oldsquaw

LD: **6 May** (male), Jake Wolf Fish Hatchery (**Mason Co**) (*RBj, LW); 2 Apr, Rainbow Beach, Chi (WS); 8 Mar, Newton Lake (Jasper Co) (DB, VK et al.). Almost no reports.

Black Scoter

One report: 1 Apr, Evanston (JE).

Surf Scoter

EA: 10-19 Mar (subad. male), Carl.L (DK, JV). LD: 22 Apr (pair), Evanston (EW); 18 Apr (2 males), Lake Petersburg (Menard Co) (CB); 18 Apr (imm), Decatur (Macon Co) (MD).

Common Goldeneye

EA: 24 Jan, HL (KM); 18 Feb (143), JP (PC); 22 Feb, M.View (RC); 22 Feb (14), Heyworth (MF, TB). MC: 432, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 20 Mar (PP, KMy); 340, JP, 27 Feb-1 Mar (PC); 106, HL, 19 Feb (KM). LD: **20 May** (male), IBSP (EW, RBa, DJ, SD); 19 Apr, Carl.L (JV).

Bufflehead

EA: 18 Feb (3), JP (PC); 20 Feb (5), HL (KM); 22 Feb, Clin.L (RC). MC: 364, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 20 Mar (PP, KMy); 62, Carlyle Sewage Pond (Clinton Co), 19 Mar (DK). LD: 4 May (4), JP (PC); 27 Apr, CONWR (KM).

Hooded Merganser

EA: 24 Jan, HL (KM); 22 Feb, M.View (RC); 22 Feb (6), McLean Co (MF, TB); 5 Mar (2), JP (PC). MC: 59, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 20 Mar (PP, KMy); 16, Evanston, 16 Apr (IM). LD: 29 May, near Mattoon (Coles Co) (RJ fide BH) - record late date for locale.

Common Merganser

EA: 18 Feb (5), JP (PC); 22 Feb, Clin.L (RC). MC: 856, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 20 Mar (PP, KMy); 770, HL, 31 Jan (KM). INHS census, 3-4 Mar: 7505 (1450, Duck Creek (Fulton Co); 1300, Anderson Lake (Fulton Co)). LD: 20 Mar, HL (KM). Others: 29 May (3), LChau (RBj, SBj, SCo) - summering?

Red-breasted Merganser

EA: 18 Feb (34), JP (PC); 22 Feb, Heyworth (MF); 6 Mar (9), HL (KM). MC: **3000**, Carl.L, 19 Mar (DK); 1719, JP, 13 Apr (PC); 800, Evanston, 2 May (EW). LD: 1 Jun (2), Wauk (DJ) - 10 there on 30 May (EW, RBj); 25 May, Carl.L (DK); 22 May (2), Heyworth (MF); 9-10 May (pair), sw. Union Co (VK, DMi).

Ruddy Duck

EA: 15 Feb (3), Carl.L (KM); 1 Mar, Clin.L (RC); 15 Mar, Loch Lomond (Lake Co) (DJ); 16 Mar, Miss.R (Rock Island Co) (KMy, PP). MC: 3000, Carl.L, 19 Mar (DK); 708, LChau, 29 Mar (RBj, SBj); 700, CONWR, 22 Mar (KM); **175**, Diamond Lake, and 115, Butler Lake (Lake Co), 19 Apr (DJ). LD: 19 May (3), Arcola (RC, GL, EC); 10 May, LaSalle (C&JMc); 9-10 May, UCCA (VK, DMi, MBo); 5 May (3), CONWR (KM, DK, JD).

Black Vulture

Others: 5, Union Co, 1 Feb (KM); 2, Heron Pond, 27 Mar (DK, JD).

Turkey Vulture

EA: 1 Mar, Adams Co (KV); 2 Mar (2), La Salle and Kane Cos (DS). MC: 40, Johnson Co, 12 Mar (KM); 33, nw. Sangamon Co, 18 Mar (VK); 21, Palos, 29 Mar (WS). LD: 4 Jun, Evanston (JE).

Osprey

EA: 6 Apr, Cook and Will Cos (CA); 12 Apr, Urbana (RC). LD: 21 May, Merwyn Preserve (McLean Co) (DBi). Others: nesting pair probably accounts for many local ne. IL records: 17 May, Eola Road Marsh (Du Page Co) (JPo).



Female Harlequin Duck. Wilmette's Gillson Park, Cook Co. 5 May 1997. Photo by Eric Walters. Note the two large white spot on the bird's face.

WHITE-TAILED KITE

8 May, Urbana (*RC) - **third state record** (see seasonal highlight).

Mississippi Kite

EA: 3 May, Union Co (KM); 11-13 May (ad.), Stump Lake (Jersey Co) (VK et al.).

Bald Eagle

EA: 23 Feb (1st year), M.View (RC); 1 Mar, Palos (WS); 1 Mar (2nd year), Clin.L (RC); . MC: 5, LChau, 20 Mar (RBj, SBj); 4 (ad.), UCCA, 9 May (VK, DMi) - some nesting?. LD: 6 Jun (1st year), Wauk (EW); 19 Apr (4th year), KCP (SB et al.). Others: 9 Mar. (ad.), Evanston (fide EW).

Northern Harrier

EA: 16 Mar (4), Carl.L (DK); 30 Mar (4), McLean Co (MF); 8 Apr (2), Crabtree NC, Barrington (Cook Co) (CF). MC: 5, Evanston, 21 Mar (EW). LD: 23 May (female), SRSP (C&JMc); 3

May, Union Co (KM).

Sharp-shinned Hawk

EA: 2 Mar, Powderhorn Lake FP (Cook Co) (WM); 23 Mar (2), Carl.L (DK); 29 Mar, Urbana (RC). MC: 6, Palos, 6 May (DSt); 4, Orland Park (Cook Co), 26 Apr (WS). LD: 23 May, Palos (DSt); 17 May, Fishhook (GL, RC, EC); 13 May (in migration), Green Co (PW, VK et al.).

Cooper's Hawk

EA: 7 Mar (2), Carl.L (DK); 8 Mar (imm), Baker's Lake (Cook Co) (PSw). MC: 6, Winnebago Co, 1 May (DW). LD: 19 May (ad.), Carl.L (DK); 11 May (2), Chi (JL); 5 May, Franklin Co (KM, DK, JD). Others: 29 Apr. (1st yr.), Evanston (EW).

Red-shouldered Hawk

EA: 22 Mar (2), Urbana (RC); 23 Mar, Zander Woods FP (Cook Co) (WM). MC: 4, Oakwood, 28 Mar (KM). LD: 7 May (imm), Joliet (Pilcher Park) (WS).

Broad-winged Hawk

EA: 5 Apr, Atwood (KM); 25 Apr, Lake Shelbyville (Moultrie Co) (MD). MC: 8, Palos, 6 May (DSt); 4, Pomona, 20 Apr (DK). LD: 16 May, Sand Ridge NC (Cook Co) (EW). Few reports.

Swainson's Hawk

EA: 13 Apr, Kane Co (GW, CW). MC: 4, one mile we. of Huntley (McHenry Co), 20 Apr (JL). Reported only from traditional sites.

Red-tailed Hawk

EA: 4 Mar, Skokie Lagoons FP (Cook Co) (EW). MC: 10, Jackson Co, 1 Apr (KM). Almost no reports on migrants.

Rough-legged Hawk

LD: 8 May (1st spring), Chi (McCormick Place) (EW, WS); 21 Apr, Vermilion Co (JSm); 15-22 Mar (dark phase), Pulaski Co (KM).

Golden Eagle

LD: **24 Apr** (imm), Pine Hills (Union Co) (*DK). No other reports.

American Kestrel

EA: 10 Mar (2), Carl.L (DK); 10 Mar (female), JP (PC). MC: 8, Madison Co, 6 Mar (KM); 3, Evanston, 21 Mar (EW).

Merlin

EA: 19 Mar (ad.), Carl.L (DK); 5 Apr, Clin.L (RC); 6 Apr, McHenry Co (RBa). LD: 2 May, Wilmette (EW).

Prairie Falcon

One report: 9 Mar, Arcola (*RC).

Peregrine Falcon

EA: 13 Apr, Urbana (GL, RC); 28 Apr, Carl.L (DK). LD: 14 May, EstL (DK); 12 May, Carl.L (DK). The status of this species in ne. IL is confused by the presence of wide-ranging reintroduced birds.

Observers should note evidence for migrants where possible, especially when subspecific identification is possible. The expected migratory race is *tundrius*, while introduced birds belong to the nominate race, *anatum*.

Greater Prairie-Chicken

MC: 7 (males), Prairie-Chicken Sanctuary (Marion Co), 10 Mar (DK).

Wild Turkey

MC: 10, La Salle Co, 5 Apr (C&JMc); 8, Madison Co, 10 Mar (KM).

Northern Bobwhite

MC: 10, Carl.L, 6 Apr (DK).

Yellow Rail

EA: 5 Apr, Clin.L (RC). LD: 19 May, no. of Fairmount (Vermilion Co) (*JSm); 5-6 May, Merwyn Preserve (McLean Co) (MF, TB). No other reports.

King Rail

EA: 21 Apr, near Pocat (BG). MC: 2, LCal, 18 May (WM); 2, Winnebago Co, 10 May (DW). Others: 10 May, IBSP (fide EW); 5 May, SaugetM (DK, KM, JD).

Virginia Rail

EA: 13 Apr, se. Saline Co (JD); 13 Apr, Arcola (RC, GL); 19 Apr, La Salle Co (C&JMc). MC: 8, Clin.L, 20 Apr (RC et al.); 7, KCP, 19 Apr (RC et al.); 10 May (MD); 4, Powderhorn Marsh (Cook Co), 27 Apr (WM); 4, IBSP, 19 May (EW). LD: 22 May, SaugetM (DK).

Sora

EA: **28 Mar**, Nelson L Marsh (Kane Co) (DS); 7 Apr (2), Northtown Marsh, Normal (McLean Co) (MF). MC: 18, Rantoul, 10 May (RC, GL); 9, Rockford, 5 May (DW). LD: 13-19 May, JP (TJ, PC); 15 May, Urbana (RC); 12 May (2), Sauget M (KM).

PURPLE GALLINULE

EA: 10 Apr, Mundelein's Steeple Chase Golf Course (Lake Co) (TM, TSm, MH) - found dead; specimen to Chi's Field Museum. Some 35 previous records, but none since 1987 (see seasonal highlights).

Common Moorhen

EA: 3-5 May, Eagle Park (Madison Co) (DKaKAM); 10 May, Almond Lake (Lake Co) (fide EW); 10 May, Heyworth (MF). Other: 25 May, Mermet L CA (KM).

American Coot

EA: 19 Feb (7), JP (PC); 8 Mar, Adams Co (KV). MC: 1600, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 25 Mar (PP); 1500, Carl.L, 29 Mar (DK); 1099, LChau, 18 Apr (RBj, SBj); 360+, McGinnis Slough (Cook Co), 10 May (WS). LD: 15 Jun, JP (PC, JR); 10 Jun, Evanston (EW); 5 Jun (2), HL (KM); 27 May, Heyworth (MF, TB).

Sandhill Crane

EA: 3 Mar (3), Rock Cut SP (DW); 3 Mar (2), Denny Road Marsh (Kane Co) (DS). MC: 2110, Palos, 12 Mar (RBe); 1200+, Orland Park (Cook Co), 13 Mar (WS); 1099, Crabtree NC, Barrington (Cook Co), 19 Mar (CF); 1000+, Boone Co, 5 Mar (AB). LD: 7 May (12), McKee Marsh (Du Page Co) (EW); 29-31 Mar, Willard Airport (Champaign Co) (MSa, GK, m.ob).



Black-bellied Plover at 64th St. Beach, Cook County. 17 May 1997. Photo by Thomas Jackman.



Virginia Rail. Kennekuk County Park, Vermillion Co. 19 April 1997. Photo by John McDaniel

Black-necked Stilt

EA: **20 Mar**, Garden Prairie Slough (Boone Co) (AB, *RMy, DW et al.) - earliest arrival for the state by nearly a month, and from a surprisingly northern locale; 3 May (3), CCNWR (KM). No other reports.

American Avocet

EA: 6-10 May (2), Hidden Lake FP (Du Page Co) (JZ, m.ob, ph.); 10 May, Carl.L (DK). LD: 14 May, Carl.L (Tamalco boat launch) (BJ fide DK).



American Avocet, one of two present, Hidden Lake Forest Preserve, Du Page County. 7 May 1997. Photo by Eric Walters.

Black-bellied Plover

EA: 29 Apr (2), Carl.L (DK); 13 May (4), Fishhook (RC); 14 May, Wauk (EW). MC: 18, Fishhook, 17 May (RC, GL, EC); 17, Carl.L, 17 May (DK). LD: 23 May, near Pocat (DW); 18 May (5), Carl.L (KM). Others: 13 May (4), MTNWR (MW, VK et al.).

American Golden-Plover

EA: 22 Mar (72), Massac Co (KM); 23 Mar, Gifford (Champaign Co) (RC); 15 Apr (2), Chi (Montrose) (WS). MC: 1300, Kinmundy (Marion Co), 4 Apr (KM); 1000+, near Homer (Champaign Co), 13 Apr (RC, GL). LD: 17 May, Douglas and Champaign Cos (GL, RC, EC); 12 May, Carl.L (DK); 9 May (30 ad.), sw. Union Co (VK, DMi); 28 Apr (5), SaugetM (KM). Others: 27 Apr (35), JP (SF, PC).

Semipalmated Plover

EA: 12 Apr (2), Union Co (KM); 28 Apr, Winnebago Co (BG); 30 Apr, L&D#14 (Rock Island Co) (CL). MC: **450**, Fishhook, 17 May (RC, GL, EC) - **all-time record high count** (previously 275); 100, Carl.L, 22 May (DK); 26, near Pocat, 23 May (DW); 22, DeerG, 17 May (CF). LD: 1 Jun, La Salle Co (DS); 29 May, LChau (RBj, SBj); 29 May (4), 3 sites in ne. IL (EW); 28 May, Carl.L (DK); 24 May, Pulaski Co (KM et al.).

Piping Plover

EA: 4 May, **Bend Road** (Madison Co) (DK). LD: 17-20 May, Wauk (*DD, m.ob). No other reports.

Killdeer

EA: 17 Feb (4), St. Clair Co (KM); 19 Feb, Adams Co (KV); 20 Feb, Rockford (BG); 28 Feb (2), JP (PC). MC: 50, Carl.L, 10 Mar (KM); 40, Evanston, 21 Mar (EW).

Greater Yellowlegs

EA: 25 Mar (3), Calhoun Co (DB, VK); 28 Mar, Boone Co (AB); 6 Apr, Cisco (Piatt Co) (MD). MC: 25, CCNWR, 25 Apr (KM); 16, Carl.L, 7 Apr (DK); 11, Massac Co, 1 Apr (KM). LD: 24 May, Alexander Co (KM et al.); 10 May, Heyworth (MF, TB).

Lesser Yellowlegs

EA: 25 Mar (3), MTNWR (DB, VK); 30 Mar, Cisco (Piatt Co) (MD); 20 Apr, Chi (JL). MC: 400, Carl.L, 3 May (DK); 100+, Fishhook, 17 May (RC, GL, EC); 34, LChau, 1 May (RBj); 25, Fermi, 7 May (EW). LD: 24 May, Alexander Co (KM et al.); 22 May (2), Heyworth (MF, TB).

Solitary Sandpiper

EA: 1 Apr (3), Jackson Co (KM); 25 Apr,

Livingston Co (RC); 30 Apr, L&D#14 (Rock Island Co) (CL); 1 May, JP (PC). MC: 7, Union Co, 20 Apr (KM); 4, Fermi, 7 May (EW). LD: 21 May, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie (DSt); 17 May, Heyworth (MF, TB); 12 May (3), Carl.L (DK); 10 May (3), Clinton Co (KM). A modest migration.

Willet

EA: 29 Apr (6), JP (PC); 4 May (7), Oreana (Macon Co) (MD). MC: **36**, Wilmette, 2 May (EW); 19, Evanston, 1 May (EW); 18, Chi (Shedd Aquarium breakwater), 4 May (GW, CW); 7, Oreana (Macon Co), 4 May (MD); 6, Spfld, 9 May (MD); 4, Fishhook, 17 May (RC, GL, EC). LD: 21 May, JP (PC); 18 May (3), Fishhook (MD); 8 May, HL (DK); 3 May, CONWR (KM). Widespread in good numbers.

Spotted Sandpiper

EA: 25 Apr, CONWR (KM); 26 Apr, L&D#18 (Henderson Co) (CL); 27 Apr (2), JP (PC et al.); 29 Apr, Spring Lake (Tazewell Co) (LH). MC: **50**, Chi/JP, 8 May (EW, WS, PC) - (flock of 18 & 10 at Montrose); 9, Chi, 19 May (EW); 8, Vermilion Co, 3 May (JSm); 8, Clinton Co, 12 May (KM, DK). LD: 18 Jun, JP (KC).

Upland Sandpiper

EA: 15 Apr, Vermilion Co (JSm); 20 Apr (4), CCNWR (KM); 4 May (2), Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie (CA); 4 May (2), border of Bureau and La Salle Cos (JH); 5 May, Boone Co (AB). LD: 15 May, Champaign Co (JSm).

Whimbrel

EA: 17 May, **Carl.L** (*DK) - (1st Fayette Co record; about the 7th record for so. Illinois); 22 May, Wilmette (EW). MC: 14, Wauk, 25 May (JPo); 14, Wilmette, 30 May (RH). LD: 5 Jun, Wilmette (EW).

Hudsonian Godwit

All reports: EA: 10-12 May, SaugetM & Alorton (St. Clair Co) (JV, DK, KM, VK); 16 May (3), east of Pecat (DW). MC: **6**, Fremont, 15 May (EW, m.ob); 5, Clin.L, 17 May (MD). LD: 23 May, east of Pecat (DW); 20 May, Fremont (SD, RBa, DJ); 13 May (subad.), MTNWR (DB, VK et al.).

Marbled Godwit

Two reports: EA: 3 May, **West Dundee** (Middle School) (ne. Kane Co) (*JU et al.). LD: 14 May, Wauk (EW).

Ruddy Turnstone

EA: 10 May, Evanston (EW); 10 May, Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 17 May, Arcola (RC); 17 May, Clin.L (MD); 18 May, Carl.L (KM). MC:



Whimbrel, Gillson Park, Cook County. Late date of 5 June 1997. Photo by Eric Walters.

32, Wauk, 20 May (EW, m.ob); 12, IBSP, 30 May (AS); 10, Chi, 19 May (EW); **10**, Fremont, 20 May (DJ, SD, RBa); **9**, Carl.L, 22 May (DK); 6, east of Pecat, 20 May (DW). LD: 1 Jun, Wauk (DJ); 28 May, Evanston (EW); 19-26 May (2), Lakeland Park (Fulton Co) (KW, ph.); 25 May, Carl.L (DK).

Red Knot

EA: 19-20 May (1) and 23 May (2), east of **Pecat**, "1st confirmed county record" (DW); 28-30 May (2), **Fermi** (WS, m.ob) - 1st Kane Co record. MC: 8, IBSP, 1 Jun (AS); 7, Wauk, 6 Jun (EW). LD: 7 Jun (2), Wauk (fide EW).

Sanderling

EA: 3 May (2), Wilmette (EW); 17 May (2), Clin.L (MD). MC: 40, Wauk, 30 May (CF); **22**, east of Pecat, 19 May (DW); 21, Wauk, 19 May (EW). LD: 6 Jun (2), Chi (JPu). Other inland records: 10 May, Adams Co (KV); 13 May (6), MTNWR, (DB, VK et al.); 19 May, so. of Winnebago (Winnebago Co) (BG); 19 May (7), Lake Villa (Lake Co) (DJ).

Semipalmated Sandpiper

EA: 3 May, CCNWR (KM); 3 May, Heyworth (MF, TB); 7 May, Mendota (JH); 13 May (10), Fishhook (RC). MC: 100, Carl.L, 22 May (DK); 65, DeerG, 30 May (CF); 60+, Fishhook, 17 May (RC, GL, EC). LD: 7 June (2), E. Cape Girardeau (Alexander Co) (MD); 4 Jun, Chi (JPu); 24 May (6), Alexander Co (KM et al.).

Western Sandpiper

EA: 3 May, CCNWR (KM); 10 May, Heyworth (MF, TB); 18 May, Mendota (JH). MC: 3, Clin.L, 17 May (MD). No other reports.

Least Sandpiper

EA: **28 Mar**, we. Union Co (PSw); 26 Apr, Heyworth (MF, TB); 26 Apr (2), Chi (fide EW); 27 Apr (4), Clin.L (MD). MC: **700+**, Fishhook, 13 May (RC) - **record spring high count** (previously 200); 200, Carl.L, 12 May (DK, KM); 125+, Fremont, 17 May (EW); 100+, DeerG, 17 May (CF); 115, Banner Marsh (Peoria Co), 12 May (VK); 97, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM); 65, LCal area, 17 May (WS). LD: 29 May, Fremont (EW); 25 May, Carl.L (DK); 22 May (4), Heyworth (MF, TB). Remarkable high counts statewide.

White-rumped Sandpiper

EA: 3 May, Pulaski Co (KM); 10 May, near Pecat (DW); 13 May (6), Fishhook (RC); 16 May, ne. Lake Co (RH). MC: 30+, Fishhook, 17 May (RC, GL, EC); 20, Carl.L, 22 May (DK); 11, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM); 6, east of Pecat, 23 May (DW). LD: 7 Jun (19) E. Cape Girardeau (Alexander Co) (MD); 30 May (2), Wauk (EW); 24 May (2), Alexander Co (KM). Others: 17 May, c. Lake Co (EW).

Baird's Sandpiper

EA: 12 May (2), Banner Marsh (Fulton Co) (VK). LD: 23 May (2), ea. of Pecat (DW); 18 May, Heyworth (MF, TB); 17 May (2), Fishhook (RC, GL, EC).

Pectoral Sandpiper

EA: 22 Mar (15), Vermilion Co (JSm); 22 Mar, Massac Co (KM); 6 Apr (6), Palos (WS). MC: 550, Pulaski Co, 18 Apr (KM); 150, Carl.L, 19 Apr (DK); 11, O'Hare Airport, 26 Apr (WS). LD: 24 May, Pulaski Co (KM et al.); 22 May, Heyworth (MF, TB).

Dunlin

EA: 20 Apr (2), Clin.L (MD et al.); 20 Apr (3), CCNWR (KM); 30 Apr, DeerG (CF). MC: 400, Carl.L, 12 May (DK, KM); 100+, Fishhook, 13 May (RC); 75, LCal area, 17 May (WS); 20-28, east of Pecat, 16-25 May (DW); 25, Wildwood (Lake Co), 17 May (EW). LD: 13 Jun, Chi (RH, EW, JPu, KHi, ph.); 1 Jun, La Salle Co (DS); 25 May (6), Carl.L (DK).

Stilt Sandpiper

EA: 5 May (2), Massac Co (KM, DK, JD). MC: 8, sw. Union Co, 9



Dunlin, Montrose Harbor, Chicago, Cook County. Late date 13 June 1997. Photo by Eric Walters.

May (VK, DMi); 4, MTNWR, 13 May (VK, DB et al.). LD: 25 May, Winnebago Co (BG); 18 May, Carl.L (DK); 17 May (2), HL (JV).

Short-billed Dowitcher

EA: 2 May, Mendota (JH); 3 May (5); Santa Fe (DK); 10 May, Middlefork and Fisher (RC, GL). MC: 100, Carl.L, 12 May (KM, DK, JD); 60, Chi (Grant Park), 28 May (DSt); 37, Fremont, 17 May (EW); 36, Fishhook, 17 May (RC, GL, EC); 28, Clin.L, 17 May (MD). LD: 20 May, Lake Co (SD, RBa, DJ); 12 May (100), Carl.L (KM, DK, JD).

Long-billed Dowitcher

EA: **23 Mar**, Carl.L (DK) - second earliest arrival date for IL; 7 Apr (2), Carl.L (Hazlett SP) (JV) - presumably this species, based on date (PC); 20 Apr (15), CCNWR (KM). MC: 15, CCNWR, 20 Apr (KM). LD: **19 May**, Chi (Montrose) (*EW, m.ob) - latest departure on record; 5 May (2), Massac Co (KM, DK, JD); 3 May, Clin.L (RC).

Common Snipe

EA: 20 Mar (6), Boone Co (AB); 22 Mar (2), Wadsworth Wetlands (Lake Co) (PSw); 23 Mar, Rantoul (RC). MC: 45, Lake Co (three sites), 12 Apr (DJ); 40, Clin.L, 5 Apr (RC); 32, Union Co, 5 Apr (KM); 25, Stump Lake (Calhoun Co), 25 Mar (DB, VK); 18, rural La Salle Co, 30 Mar (C&JMc); 16, De Kalb Co, 13 Apr (DS). LD: 14 May, Lakeland Park (Fulton Co) (KW); 5 May, Massac Co (KM, DK, JD).

American Woodcock

EA: 17 Feb, SaugetM (KM); 20 Feb, Adams Co (KV); 1 Mar (2), Zander Woods FP (Cook Co) (WM). MC: 10, Urbana, 28 Feb (RC); 10, IBSP, 20 Mar (PSw).

Wilson's Phalarope

EA: 29 Apr (2), Carl.L (DK); 30 Apr, Glacial Park (McHenry Co) (RBa); 1 May (5), Decatur (Macon Co) (MD); 1 May, Heyworth (MF,

Franklin's Gull

EA: 5 Apr, Clin.L (RC); 7 Apr (1st year), Chi (JL); 10 Apr (3), Boone Co (AB). MC: 4 (ad.), Carl.L, 3 May (DK). LD: 22 May (3 ad.), Carl.L (DK); 10 May, Chi (JPu); 3 May, Oquawka (Henderson Co) (CL). Others: 1 May, Wilmette (RFi); 3 May (2), LaSalle (C&JMc, ph.); 7-8 May (1st year), Chi (EW).

Little Gull

One report: 13 Apr (ad.), JP (*PC).

Bonaparte's Gull

EA: 13 Mar (2), HL (KM); 27 Mar (14), Evanston (EW); 28 Mar (5), Boone Co (AB); 30 Mar (20), Heyworth (MF, TB). MC: 800, Clin.L, 20 Apr (MD); 640, Evanston, 29 Apr (EW); 500+, Kane Co, 25 Apr (RBa); 300, Carlyle Sewage Pond (Clinton Co), 2 Apr (DK); 235, CONWR, 15 Mar (KM); 184, JP, 3 May (PC). LD: 14 June (2—1st summer), Wauk (EW); 10 June (2—1st summer), Evanston (EW); 31 May (last ad), Wauk (EW, DJ); 18 May, Carl.L (KM).

MEW GULL

One report: 26 Mar (ad.), Danville (*RC).

Ring-billed Gull

MC: 2900, Clinton Co, 20 Mar (KM); 1500, Evanston, 10 May (EW); 1492, JP, 1 Mar (PC); 1255, Cook Co lakefront, 22 Mar (EW); 1050, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 20 Mar (PP, KMy).

Herring Gull

MC: 1100, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 6 Mar (PP); 300+, Evanston, 2 May (EW). LD: 28 May, Carl.L (DK); 12 May, HL (KM, DK).

Thayer's Gull

MC: **2**, LMich. (no. Cook Co, Lake Co), 10 May (RB, EW, IM); 5, Wilmette, 12 May (JE). LD: 22 May (ad.), Wilmette (EW); 14 May (ad.), Wauk; 13 May (ad.), Wilmette Numerous reports from LMich. and LCal throughout season. As with other large gulls which winter at LMich., the number of sightings increased in Mar, although limits between spring migrants and overwintering birds are vague. Interior records: 16 Mar, Miss.R (Rock Island Co) (KMy, PP); 26 Mar (1st year), Danville (RC).

Iceland Gull

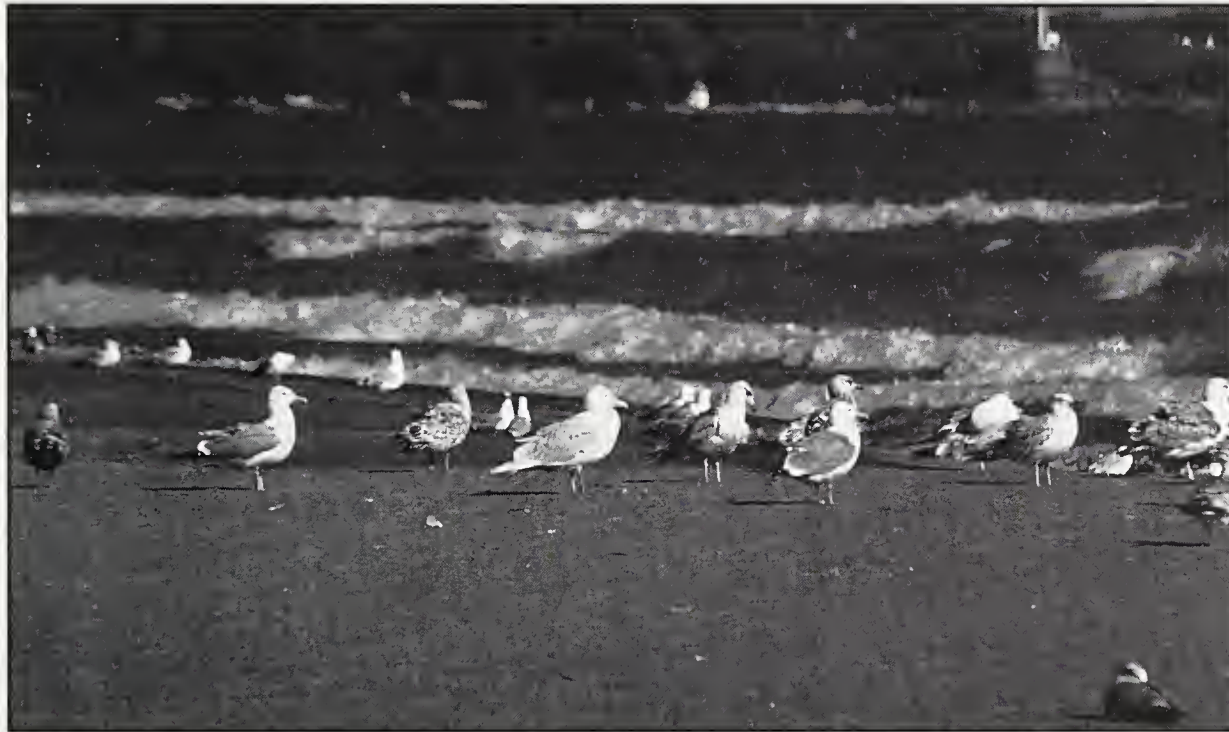
EA: 14 Mar, LCal (JL). MC: **5**, LMich. (no. Cook Co, Lake Co), **10 May** (RB, EW, IM); 3 (imm), Chi (Montrose), 2 May (GW). LD: 10-13 May (2nd year), Wilmette (EW, IM); 9 May (ad.), Wilmette (EW). Reported steadily early Apr - early May, mostly as singles, from LMich. and LCal No reports from other areas.

Lesser Black-backed Gull

EA: 16 Mar (ad.), Chi (JL). MC: **2**, LMich. (no. Cook Co, Lake Co), 10 May (RB, EW, IM) - **record spring high count** (previous spring high count is 2 birds); at least 5 different individuals at Evanston/Wilmette, 30 Apr-10 May (EW). LD: 25 May (3rd year), JP (PC, SCa). Well represented along LMich., mostly 10 Apr-10 May. Others: One at inland quarry in Cook Co, 19 Apr (JPo). Downstate reports: 12 Apr (3rd year), HL (JV); 19 Apr (ad.), Sang.L (MD).

Glaucous Gull

MC: 4, LMich. (no. Cook Co, Lake Co), 10 May (RB, EW, IM). Reported as ones and twos throughout season, through 10 May, from LMich. and LCal None reported elsewhere.



Adult Glaucous Gull (center) at Gillson Beach, Cook County, 10 May 1997.

Photo by Eric Walters.

TB); 2 May, Mendota (JH). MC: 7 (4 males, 3 females), Arcola, 4 May (RC); 5, Decatur (Macon Co), 1 May (MD); 4, MTNWR, 13 May (MW, VK et al.); 4, Pulaski/Fayette/Massac Co's, 5 May (KM, DK, JD). LD: 25 May, Carl.L (DK); 17 May (male), Fremont (EW); 17 May, DeerG (CF); 17 May, Fishhook (RC, GL, EC). Others: 4 May, we, Lake Co (AS); 7-9 May (pair), Fermi (EW, m.ob); 10 May (male), sw, Union Co (VK, MBo); 10 May, near Pecat (DW); 10 May, Wauconda (Lake Co) (JO). Very healthy number of reports.

Laughing Gull

One report: 8 May (ad.), **Bend Road** (Madison Co) (DK, FH).

Great Black-backed Gull

EA: 14 Mar (1st year), JP (PC). LD: 10 May-6 Jun (1st year), Wauk (EW, RB, m.ob); 8-10 May (1st year), Chi (RH, m.ob). Scattered reports of singles in Apr and May from LMich. One inland record: 22 Mar, **Boone Co** (AB).

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE

LD: 4 May (1st summer), no. Kane Co (*AS) (see seasonal highlights); 8 Mar (1st summer), Clin.L, (*RC). Seventh and 8th IL spring records.

GULL-BILLED TERN

30 May, Wauk (*EW, m.ob, ph.). **FIRST ADEQUATELY DOCUMENTED IL RECORD**. See separate article in this issue.

Caspian Tern

EA: **3 Apr**, JP (*PC) - ties previous early arrival date for IL; 12 Apr, JP (PC); 19 Apr (2), Danville (RC); 5 May, Carl.L (KM, DK, JD). MC: **217**, JP, 3 May (PC) - all-time record high count; 145, Evanston, 29-30 Apr (EW); 54, Evanston, 22 May (EW) - a late concentration. LD: 18 May, Carl.L (KM). Some LMich. records into June may involve summering birds. The seasonal abundance of this species appears to be changing, and since 1993 the spring high counts along LMich. have exceeded those of fall.

Common Tern

EA: 27 Apr, Clin.L (MD); 27 Apr (2), Chi (JL). MC: 575, Wauk, 14 May (EW); 70, Carl.L, 18 May (KM). LD: 5 Jun, Wilmette (EW); 2 Jun, Heyworth (MF, TB); 28 May (8), Carl.L (DK).

ARCTIC TERN

EA: 31 May (ad), Wauk (*DB, *RC, *MD, *DK, m.ob). LD: 14-16 Jun (sub.ad.), Wauk - (new bird; had faint gray carpal bar and dark forehead) (SH, ph., m.ob). Fourth and 5th IL records. See seasonal highlights.

Forster's Tern

EA: **1 Apr** (3), Sang.L (MD); 16 Apr (3), Evanston (IM); 16 Apr (2), Crystal Lake (RBa). MC: 174, Evanston, 10 May (EW, JE, IM); 105, Chi, 7 May (EW); 60, Carl.L, 7 May (KM); 25, Mermet L CA, 8 May (VK, DMi). LD: 5 Jun, Wilmette (EW); 25 May (3), Mermet L CA (KM et al.).

Least Tern

EA: "likely arrived by 1 May" (KM). MC: 15, Massac Co, 25 May (KM et al.); 2, extreme sw. Jackson Co, 24 May (C&JMc).

Black Tern

EA: 3 May (2), Heyworth (MF, TB); 3 May, Mahomet (RC); 7 May (4), Nelson Lake Marsh (Kane Co) (EW); 9 May (2), M.Arb (EW). MC: 60, Carl.L, 18 May (KM); 35, Mermet L CA, 8 May (VK, DMi); 15, Heyworth, 4 May (MF, TB). LD: 31 May (5), DelMonte Ponds, Mendota (C&JMc et al.); 26 May (7), Heyworth (MF, TB). Others: 13 May (5), Rock Cut SP (DW).

Mourning Dove.

MC: 20, Carl.L, 10 Mar (DK); 18, JP, 29 Apr (PC).

Black-billed Cuckoo

EA: 8 May, JP (KHa, PC et al.); 10 May, Adams Co (KV); 17 May, Monticello (Piatt Co) (RC, GL, EC). LD: 18 Jun, JP (JR, DA); 25 May, Carl.L (DK). Both Cuckoos migrated late and in poor numbers. Some observers expressed concern over evident decline of both species in recent years.



Two Forster's Terns on Waukegan Beach, Lake County, late June 1997. Photo by Eric Walters.



Great Black-backed Gull in molt. Late day 6 June 1997. Waukegan Beach. Photo by Eric Walters.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

EA: 29 Apr (2), Mackinaw (MF); 12 May (2), Clinton Co (KM, DK); 17 May, Mahomet (RC, GL, EC); 20 May, Mattieson SP (La Salle Co) (C&JMc). MC: 3, Carl.L, 23 May (KM). LD: 20 Jun, JP (KC); 12 Jun (2), Chi (KHi); 28 May (2), Carl.L (DK).

Great Horned Owl

EA: 9 Mar, JP (PC). LD: 29 Apr, JP (TJ).

Snowy Owl

LD: up to **5 Apr**, Chi (Miigs Airport) (GW, CA); 1 Mar (2), **LaSalle L** (C&JMc).

Long-eared Owl

LD: 19 Apr, Chi (Montrose) (GW, JL); 10 Mar, Carl.L (DK).

Short-eared Owl

LD: 15 Apr, Chi (Montrose) (GW); 5 Apr, Palatine (Hamilton Reservoir) (CF); 27 Mar, JP (PC); 26 Mar, L Bloomington

(McLean Co) (MF); 11 Mar, Middlefork (RC).

Northern Saw-whet Owl

LD: 29 Mar, JP (*PC, m.ob); 8 Mar (overwintering bird), Allerton Park (Piatt Co) (MD). No other reports.

Common Nighthawk

EA: 3 May, CONWR (KM); 8 May (7), Urbana (RC); 9 May (3), Palatine (Hamilton Reservoir) (CF). MC: 33, Palos, 22 May (WS); 20, Belleville (St. Clair Co), 17 May (DK); 12, Rockford, 19 May (DW).

Chuck-will's-widow

EA: 26 Apr, se. Saline Co (JD). Others: 25 May, Lake Murphysboro SP (Jackson Co), 25 May (KM). MC: 8 (single-party count), Union Co, 10 May (VK, MBo).

Whip-poor-will

EA: 2 Apr (6), se. Saline Co (JD); 18 Apr, CONWR (KM); 3 May, Coles Co (VC fide BH); 4 May (male), JP (PC et al.). MC: 10, Marion Co, 12 May (KM); 7, near Durand (Winnebago Co), 10 May (DW); 6, IBSP, 19 May (EW); 6, se. Saline Co, 2 Apr (JD); 5, Mahomet and Urbana, 11 May (RC, GL). LD: 18 May (male), JP (PC).

Chimney Swift

EA: 3 Apr (5), Belleville (St. Clair Co) (DK); 24 Apr, Bushnell (McDonough Co) (LH); 26 Apr (2), JP (PC et al.) - record late arrival for site. MC: 200, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), 18 May (KM); 180, JP, 2 Jun (PC).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

EA: 19 Apr, Johnson Co (KM); 29 Apr, Mendota (JH); 4 May, Urbana (RC); 6 May (2), Boone Co (AB). MC: 4, Pomona, 30 Apr (KM); 3, Chi, 19 May (EW); 3, Evanston, 24 May (JE). LD: 6 Jun (female), JP (PC); 25 May (2), Carl.L (DK).

Belted Kingfisher

EA: 11 Mar (male), JP (PC); 23 Mar, Carl.L (DK). LD: 26 May, JP (KC). Almost no observers offered even a mention of this species, making its status difficult to assess, but evidence from some areas suggests recent decline.

Red-headed Woodpecker

EA: 12 Apr, Braidwood (CA); 21 Apr, Adams Co (KV); 2 May, JP (PC). MC: 18, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM). LD: 18 May, JP (JL). Poorly represented along LMich. and perhaps elsewhere, but few concrete data were received.

Red-bellied Woodpecker

EA: 28 Apr, Evanston (EW). MC: 22, Carl.L, 16 Mar (DK). LD: 18 May, Evanston (JE). Others: 26 Mar (overwintering bird), Lincoln Park, Chi (JL). Although this species is largely sedentary, records from the LMich. shoreline parks reveal some spring movement.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

EA: 25 Mar (male), JP (PC); 26 Mar (2), Normal (McLean Co) (MF); 28 Mar (6), Urbana (RC). MC: 13, JP, 7 Apr (PC); 6, De Kalb Co, 13 Apr (DS). LD: **10 May**, Coles Co (BH) - record late date for Coles Co; 10 May (3), Evanston (EW, IM, m.ob) and (2), JP (PC et al.); 21 Apr, Pine Hills (Union Co) (KM).

Downy Woodpecker

MC: 18, Carl.L, 16 Mar (DK).

Hairy Woodpecker

MC: 9, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM). Other: 7 Mar-24 Apr, Chi (non-breeding area) (JL).

Northern Flicker

EA: 1 Mar (influx), Clin.L (RC); 8 Mar, Rock Island Co (CL); 16 Mar, Glenview (Cook Co) (JE); 23 Mar, JP (PC). MC: 26, JP, 25 Apr (PC); 12, Union Co, 20 Apr (KM). LD: 2 May (7), JP (PC).

Pileated Woodpecker

Others: 9 Apr & 20 May, RCA (SH & SD, DJ, RBA); 24 Apr, Rockford (DW); 28 Apr, near Shirland (Winnebago Co) (BG); 6 May, Adams Co (KV); 31 May, Palos (Columbia Woods) (CT).

Olive-sided Flycatcher

EA: 11 May, Urbana (RC); 12 May, Santa Fe (KM, DK); 18 May, JP (KHa); 18 May, Green River CA (Lee Co) (C&JMc). MC: 3, Urbana, 18 May (RC); 3, Du Page Co, 31 May (JPo). LD: 10 Jun, Evanston (EW); 5 Jun, Pesotum (Champaign Co) (RC); 28 May, Carl.L (DK).

Eastern Wood-Pewee

EA: 2 May, Urbana (RC); 3 May (2), Mermet L CA (KM); 3 May, Queen's Lake (Clinton Co) (DK); 3 May, SRSP (C&JMc); 4 May, Merwyn Preserve (McLean Co) (MF); 11 May (2), JP (RH, PC). MC: 30, Palos, 30 May (DSt). LD: 13 Jun, Chi (EW).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

EA: 16 May (2), Chi (JL); 18 May, Urbana (RC); 19 May, Carl.L (DK). MC: **37**, Chi (Grant Park), 30 May (DSt) - **record high count**; 6, Urbana, 1 Jun and 8 Jun (RC). LD: 12 Jun, Evanston (EW); 8 Jun (6), Urbana (RC); 28 May (2), Carl.L (DK).

Acadian Flycatcher

EA: 30 Apr, Queen's Lake (Clinton Co) (DK); 4 May, Urbana (RC).

MC: 14, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM). LD: **12 Jun**, Evanston (EW); 30 May, Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 1 Jun (3), Urbana (RC).

Alder Flycatcher

EA: 13 May, Fishhook (RC); 23 May (12), Carl.L (KM); 30 May (2), JP (PC); 30 May (2), DeerG (CF). MC: **23**, Urbana, 25 May (RC); **12**, Carl.L, 23 May (KM); 4, Chi, 5 Jun (EW). See also Willow Flycatcher. LD: 11 Jun, Chi (EW); 8 Jun (3), Urbana (RC); 28 May, EstL (KM).

Willow Flycatcher

EA: 7 May, Urbana (RC); 10 May, JP (PC, TJ). MC: **80** (combined tally of Willow and Alder Flycatchers), Chi (Grant Park), 30 May (DSt) - **unprecedented high count**; 10, Urbana, 25 May (RC). LD: 21 Jun, Chi (JL).

Least Flycatcher

EA: 30 Apr (2), Pomona (KM); 30 Apr (2), Atwood (KM); 2 May, Urbana (RC); 3 May, DeerG (CF). MC: 17, Chi, 19 May (EW); 12, Urbana, 11 May (RC). LD: 8 Jun (2), Urbana (RC); 11 Jun, Chi (JL); 4 Jun, Coles Co (BH).

Eastern Phoebe

EA: 8 Mar, Clin.L (MD); 8 Mar (2), Union Co (KM); 10 Mar, Carl.L (DK); 10 Mar, Coles Co (BH); 16 Mar, Rockford (BG); 18 Mar, Palos (RBe). MC: 8, JP, 25 Mar (PC). LD: 8 May, JP (PC).

Great Crested Flycatcher

EA: 30 Apr (2), Pomona (KM); 30 Apr (2), Atwood (KM); 4 May, Urbana (RC); 5 May (3), JP (WS, PC et al.); 5 May, Palatine (CF). MC: 15, Palos, 27 May (DSt); 14, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM); 10, Carl.L, 28 May (DK); 7, JP, 8 May (PC). LD: 18 Jun, Winnetka (fide EW); 18 Jun, Evanston (EW).



Whip-poor-will. Deerfield Parkway, Lake County. 28 May 1997. Photo by Denis Bohm.

Western Kingbird

Four reports: 11 May (ad.), nw. St. Clair Co (VK); 25 May, EstL (DK); 30 May, Chi (**Montrose**) (RH, GW, JPu); 4 Jun, Chi (**Rainbow Beach**) (DM).

Eastern Kingbird

EA: 19 Apr, Heron Pond (KM); 29 Apr, JP (PC); 30 Apr, Vermilion Co (JSm). MC: 33, Union Co, 3 May (KM); 20, Fermi, 29 May (EW); 17, Chi, 30 May (JL). LD: 11 Jun (2 migrants), Chi (EW).

Horned Lark

EA: 15 Mar, JP (PC). MC: 30, Carl.L, 10 Mar (DK). LD: 27 Mar, Evanston (EW).

Purple Martin

EA: 22 Mar, Pulaski Co (KM); 23 Mar, Carl.L (DK); 12 Apr (6),

Boone Co (AB); 14 Apr, Evanston (EW); 19 Apr, Kennekuk Cove SP (SB et al.). MC: 70+, Wilmette, 7 Jun (EW); 60, Mermet L CA, 14 Apr (KM). LD: 7 Jun, as above; 6 Jun (25+), Chi (EW). Swallows and martins arrived significantly late at many sites, despite the occurrence of scattered early individuals across the state. Some observers noted depleted populations.

Tree Swallow

EA: 14 Mar (10), CONWR (KM); 16 Mar (11), Clin.L (MD); 27 Mar, JP (PC); 28 Mar (3), De Kalb Co (DS). MC: 1500, CONWR, 12 Apr (KM); 250+, Braidwood, 12 Apr (CA); 250, Heyworth, 3 May (MF).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

EA: 25 Mar, Decatur (Macon Co) (MD); 29 Mar (2), Carl.L (DK); 5 Apr (2), Jackson Co (KM); 13 Apr, Arcola (RC, GL); 16 Apr (7), Dayton (La Salle Co) (C&JMc); 19 Apr (2), JP (TJ, PC); 19 Apr, Butler Lake (Lake Co) (DJ). MC: 130, Union Co, 3 May (KM); 37, JP, 25 May (PC). LD: 5 Jun, Wilmette (EW).

Bank Swallow

EA: 2 Apr (3), Boone Co (AB); 6 Apr (3), Johnson Co (KM); 20 Apr, Clin.L (MD et al.). MC: 200, CCNWR, 3 May (KM); 120, HL, 28 Apr (KM); 65, LCal, 10 May (WM); 37, JP, 31 May (PC). LD: 18 Jun (6), Evanston (EW).

Cliff Swallow

EA: 12 Apr, Jackson Co (KM); 19 Apr, Danville (DI, SB, RC); 5 May (4), Boone Co (AB); 6 May, DeerG (CF). MC: **2000**, MTNWR, 13 May (DB, VK et al.); 312, Mendota (DelMonte Ponds), 29 May (C&JMc). LD: 4 Jun (7), Chi (KHi).

Barn Swallow

EA: **29 Mar**, SRSP (C&JMc); 31 Mar, Frank Holten SP (St. Clair Co) (DK); 1 Apr (2), Union Co (KM); 3 Apr, Decatur (Macon Co) (MD); 12 Apr, Joliet and Braidwood (CA). MC: 250, Heyworth, 3 May (MF, TB); 105, Union Co, 3 May (KM).

Blue Jay

EA: 21 Apr, JP and Evanston (PC, EW). MC: 107, Wilmette, 10 May (EW, JE, IM); 67, Wilmette, 30 May (EW). LD: **4 Jul** (3), JP (PC, SCa).

American Crow

Albino ("completely white except for some dark speckles on its head"), 24 Mar, Deerfield (Lake Co) (JE).

Fish Crow

EA: 8 Mar, Union Co (KM). MC: 50, Oakwood, 19 Apr (KM). Expanding range no. along Kaskaskia River: 30 Apr, Kaskaskia River (Clinton Co) (DK); 10 May (4), Clinton Co (KM).

Tufted Titmouse

MC: 33, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM). Other: 21 Apr-7 May, M.Arb (EW).

Red-breasted Nuthatch

LD: 25-27 May, JP (SCa, PC, KC); 15 Apr, Jackson Co (DS); 13 Apr, CONWR (KM); 12 May, M.Arb (CA); 10 May (male), Lyon's Woods FP (Lake Co) (JO); 29 Apr, Bushnell (McDonough Co) (LH). Almost non-existent this season.

Brown Creeper

EA: 17 Mar, Bushnell (McDonough Co) (LH); 25 Mar (3), JP (PC). MC: 8, JP, 20 Apr and 23 Apr (PC); 7, Boone Co, 29 Mar (AB); 5, Pomona, 15 Mar (KM). LD: **26 May**, Boone Co (MRa); **25 May**, Heron Pond (MRe, KM et al.) - breeding suspected; 19 May, Chi (Grant Park) (DSt).

Carolina Wren

MC: 15, Carl.L, 10 Mar (DK). Others: 24 May, Columbia Woods, and 26 Mar-24 May, Palos Park (Cook Co) (CT); 2 May, La Salle Co (C&JMc). Numbers way down, Vermilion Co (JSm).

Bewick's Wren

EA: 23 Mar, **Carl.L** (DK); 25 Apr, **Adams Co** (KV).

House Wren

EA: 14 Apr, Pine Hills (Union Co) (KM); 16 Apr, Urbana (RC); 24 Apr, Chi (JL). MC: 8, Carl.L, 7 May (KM); 8, JP, 8 May and 18 May (PC). LD: 12 Jun (2), Evanston and Wilmette (EW).

Winter Wren

EA: 9 Mar, Urbana (RC); 25 Mar (3), Boone Co (AB); 29 Mar, JP (PC). LD: 10 May, JP (*PC, TJ); 25 Apr, Pine Hills (Union Co) (KM). Few reports, with maxima to only 4 birds.

Sedge Wren

EA: 27 Apr, Pulaski Co (KM); 5 May (3), Freeport (DW); 5 May, Chi (JL); 10 May (5), nw. Champaign Co (RC, GL). MC: 6, Freeport, 10 May (DW); 5, se. Cook Co, 10 May (fide EW). LD: 16 May, JP (PC).

Marsh Wren

EA: 2 May, La Salle Co (C&JMc); 3 May, Clin.L (RC); 3 May, Normal (MF); 4 May, JP (PC). MC: 6, nw. Champaign Co, 10 May (RC, GL); 3, JP, 18 May (PC, KHa). LD: 30 May (2), Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 22 May, SaugetM (DK).

Golden-crowned Kinglet

EA: 28 Feb, Urbana (RC); 11 Mar, JP (PC). MC: 40, KCP, 26 Mar (RC); 11, JP, 21 Apr (TJ, PC). LD: 14-20 May (male), Lyon's Woods FP (Lake Co) (EW, DJ, SD, RBa); 10 May, Boone Co (MRa); 27 Apr, Heron Pond (KM).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

EA: 11 Mar, Madison Co (KM); 26 Mar (2), KCP (RC); 2 Apr (2), Chi (JL). MC: 42, Chi (Grant Park), 10 May (DSt); 21, JP, 27 Apr (PC); 12, CONWR, 13 Apr (KM). LD: 22 May, JP (PC); 17 May, White Heath (Piatt Co) (GL, RC, EC); 17 May, Clinton (De Witt Co) (MD); 10 May, Clinton Co (KM).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

EA: 29 Mar, se. Saline Co (JD); 30 Mar, Urbana (RC et al.); 1 Apr (4), Pomona (KM); 7 Apr, Boone Co (AB); 18 Apr, JP (PC). MC: 49, Union Co, 20 Apr (KM); 22, JP, 6 May (PC). LD: 11 Jun, Chi (EW). Healthy numbers.

Eastern Bluebird

EA: 23 Feb, M.View (RC); 26 Feb, Adams Co (KV); 28 Feb (2), Boone Co (AB); 3 Mar, Rock Island Co (CL); 12 Mar (male), JP (PC). MC: 22, Union Co, 22 Mar (KM). No high counts reported from central or northern areas. LD: 5 Jun, Wilmette (EW); 25 May (2), Chi (JL). **Corrigendum:** Last spring's published high count of 24 birds at JP is in error, as only singles were reported from that site.

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE

LD: 16 Mar (overwintering bird), Rockford (Klehm Arboretum) (BG).

Veery

EA: 30 Apr, Queen's Lake (Clinton Co) (DK); 2 May, Urbana (RC); 8 May (22), JP (PC et al.). MC: 35, Chi/JP, 8 May (EW, WS, PC); 17, TWFP, 17 May (DSt); 6, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM); 6, Urbana, 11 May (RC). LD: 1 Jun, JP (PC, SCa); 30 May, Evanston (EW); 24 May, Giant City SP (Jackson Co) (C&JMc).

Gray-cheeked Thrush

EA: 30 Apr, Queen's Lake (Clinton Co) (DK); 30 Apr, Urbana (RC); 1 May, CBG (DJ). MC: 13, JP, 10 May (PC et al.); 11, Chi (Grant Park), 8 May (DSt); 9, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM); 9, Urbana, 16 May (RC). LD: 1 Jun, Evanston (JE); 26 May, Urbana (RC); 12 May, Carl.L (KM, DK)..

Swainson's Thrush

EA: 19 Apr, Atwood (KM); 26 Apr, White Pines SP (Ogle Co) (RC); 30 Apr (7), JP (PC, KHa). MC: 29, Mackinaw, 17 May (MF); 29, TWFP, 17 May (DSt); 23, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM); 20+, Urbana, 8 May (RC). LD: 14 Jun, Evanston (JE); 12 Jun (2), JP (PC); 8 Jun (2), Urbana (RC); 23 May (4), Carl.L (KM).

Hermit Thrush

EA: 22 Mar, Urbana (RC); 25 Mar, JP (PC). MC: 54, JP, 16 Apr (PC); 15, Urbana, 13 Apr (RC et al.). LD: **3 Jun** (tail damaged), Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); **19 May (2)**, Chi (EW); **17 May**, Mackinaw (MF); 11 May, Urbana (RC); 27 Apr, Heron Pond (KM).

Wood Thrush

EA: 19 Apr, Atwood (KM); 30 Apr (4), Vermilion Co (JSm); 1 May, JP (fide PC); 2 May, Urbana (RC). MC: 7, JP, 8 May (PC); 5, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM). LD: 1 Jun, JP (SCa).

American Robin

EA: 18 Feb (influx), Urbana (RC); 23 Feb (4), Chi (JL). MC: 745, Evanston, 27 Mar (EW); 443, JP, 25 Mar (PC); 300, Carl.L, 10 Mar (DK); 165, Jackson Co, 22 Mar (KM); 120, Sangamon Co, 15 Mar (VK). LD: 30 Apr (5 migrating), JP (PC).

Gray Catbird

EA: 30 Apr (5), Pomona (KM); 30 Apr (2), Queen's Lake (Clinton Co) (DK); 2 May, JP (PC, SF); 2 May, Urbana (RC). MC: 100+, Urbana, 11 May (RC); 76, JP, 8 May (PC); 68, Chi (Grant Park), 8 May (DSt); 25, Carl.L, 17 May (KM). LD: 6 Jun (5), Chi (Grant Park) (DSt).

Northern Mockingbird

EA: 23 Mar, Carl.L (DK); 23 Mar, ea. of Bushnell (McDonough Co) (LH); 26 Apr, Chi (WS); 5 May, Ottawa (La Salle Co) (C&JMc). MC: 5, Pulaski Co, 27 Apr (KM). LD: **30 May**, Evanston (EW).

Brown Thrasher

EA: 8 Mar, Pulaski Co (KM); 11 Mar, Middlefork (RC); 19 Mar, Carl.L (DK); 29 Mar, Ottawa (La Salle Co) (C&JMc); 30 Mar, JP (PC). MC: 25, Chi (Grant Park), 10 May (DSt); 15, Urbana, 20 Apr (RC); 15, JP, 8 & 10 May (PC et al.); 15, Chi, 8 May (EW,WS); 8, Carl.L, 17 May (KM). LD: 10 Jun (2), JP (PC).

American Pipit

EA (first wave): **28 Feb**, Naperville (Will Co) (DSt) - only "first wave" migrant reported from north; record early arrival for no. IL; 8 Mar (14), so. Clinton Co (KM); 22 Mar, Arcola (RC). MC: 50, Carl.L, 19 Mar (DK). EA (second wave arrivals - reported only from no. Illinois): 14 Apr, so. central McHenry Co (WS); 29 Apr, JP (PC). MC: 24, CONWR, 26 Apr (KM); 9, DeerG, 30 Apr (CF); 8, LaSalle, 3 May (C&JMc); 7, Glacial Park (McHenry Co), 1 May (RBa). LD: **4 Jun**, Chi (KHi); 17 May, DeerG (CF); 13 May, Fishhook (RC); 11 May (6), Stump Lake (Jersey Co) (VK); 10 May, Coles Co (BH).

Cedar Waxwing

EA (first wave): 24 Feb (3), O'Fallon (St. Clair Co) (KM); 20 Mar (6), JP (PC). MC: 20, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), 30 Mar (KM). EA (second wave): 25 Apr (25), Northbrook (Cook Co) (JE); 18 May (51), JP (PC, m.ob). MC: 249+, Chi/JP, 30 May (EW,PC); 104, Chi, 24 May (EW); 60, Mernmet L CA, 25 May (KM et al.). LD: **4 Jul** (31), JP (PC, SCa); 13 Jun (20), Wilmette (EW).

Northern Shrike

22 Mar, near Pecat (DW); 22 Mar, Wadsworth Wetlands (Lake Co) (PSw). No other reports.

Loggerhead Shrike

Crystal Lake Lippold Park, McHenry Co well-studied under scope (RBa, DF et al.); MC: 4, Kimmundy (Marion Co), 4 Apr (KM); 3, Carl.L, 23 Mar (DK). Others: 1-8 May, Stephenson and Winnebago Co line (DW); 17 May (pair), Arthur (Moultrie/Douglas Cos) (RC, GL, EC). Almost no reports.

European Starling

EA: 1 Mar (55+ migrating), JP (PC). MC: 470, Evanston, 21 Mar (EW). LD: 11 May (14 migrating), JP (PC).

White-eyed Vireo

EA: 5 Apr, Pomona (KM); 11 Apr, se. Saline Co (JD); 3 May, White Heath (Piatt Co) (RC); 3 May, Henderson Co (CL); 18-20 May, RCA (DJ, m.ob); 21 May, Chi (JL). MC: 10, Pomona, 3 May (KM); 3, Rock Cut SP, 20 May (DW). LD: 31 May, TWFP (DSt); 28 May, Chi (JL).

Bell's Vireo

EA: 6 May (2), SaugetM (DK); 11 May (2), Urbana (RC); 21 May, Rock Cut SP (DW); 28 May, Fermi (EW). MC: 3, Carl.L, 23 & 28 May (KM,DK).

Solitary Vireo

EA: 27 Apr, JP (PC et al.); 30 Apr (2), Evanston (EW). MC: **7**, Palos, 16 May (DSt); 4, DeerG, 6 May (CF). LD: 29 May, Evanston (JE); 28 May (2), TWFP (DSt); 17 May, Carl.L (KM).

Yellow-throated Vireo

EA: 14 Apr (3), Union Co (KM); 26 Apr, Decatur (Macon Co) (MD); 28 Apr, White Heath (Piatt Co) (RC); 6 May, Rock Island (Rock Island

Co) (CL); 8 May, JP (PC). MC: 16, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM); 7, Palos, 13 May (DSt). LD: 28 May, JP (PC); 28 May, Rock Island (Rock Island Co) (CL).

Warbling Vireo

EA: 14 Apr (3), Union Co (KM); 5 May (2), JP (JL, PC). MC: 19, Clinton Co, 17 May (KM); 10, nw. Champaign Co, 10 May (RC, GL); 7, JP, 31 May (PC).

Philadelphia Vireo

EA: 3 May, Pomona (KM); 3 May, Carl.L (DK); 5 May (2), Chi (JL); 13 May, Fishhook (RC). MC: **9**, TWFP, 26 May (DSt); 4, Mackinaw, 17 May (MF). LD: **1 Jun (5)**, TWFP (DSt); 29 May, Chi (EW); **28 May**, Carl.L (DK); 25 May, Urbana (RC).

Red-eyed Vireo

EA: 18 Apr (2), Pomona (KM); 26 Apr, Decatur (Macon Co) (MD); 30 Apr, JP (PC, GW). MC: **95**, Palos, 30 May (DSt); 40, Urbana, 25 May (RC); 18, Carl.L, 23 May (KM); 14, Mackinaw, 17 May (MF). LD: 15 Jun, JP (PC); 13 Jun (2), Chi (EW). Arrived significantly late at many sites.

Blue-winged Warbler

EA: 19 Apr, Heron Pond (KM); 30 Apr, Evanston (EW); 3 May, Mahomet (RC). MC: **12**, TWFP, 17 May (DSt); 7, Pomona, 30 Apr (KM); 5, Urbana, 8 May (RC). LD: 6 Jun, Chi (JPu); 31 May, IBSP (RC); 25 May, Urbana (RC). Hybrids ("Brewster's Warbler"): 8 May, Chi (Grant Park) (TS, DSt); 11 May (male), JP (RH, PC et al.); 17 May, West Du Page Woods FP (JPo); 26 May, Fermi (JPo); 30 May (male), Wilmette (EW).

Golden-winged Warbler

EA: 30 Apr, Pomona (KM); 7 May (male), Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 7 May, Urbana (RC). MC: **21**, TWFP, 17 May (DSt); 12, Palos, 20 May (WS); 10, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM); 10, Piatt Co, 17 May (RC, GL, EC). LD: 3 Jun (female), Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 17 May (3), Carl.L (KM). Widespread in healthy numbers. See Blue-winged Warbler for hybrids.

Tennessee Warbler

EA: 21 Apr, Pine Hills (Union Co) (KM); 30 Apr, JP (SF); 30 Apr (2), Urbana (RC). MC: 75, Palos, 20 May (DSt); 48, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM). LD: 19 June, Chgo (JL). 15 Jun, Ottawa (LaSalle Co) (C&JMc). 8 Jun, Urbana (RC); 7 Jun (female), TWFP (DSt); 27 May, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co) (KM).

Orange-crowned Warbler

EA: 16 Apr, Urbana (RC); 18 Apr, Pine Hills (Union Co) (KM); 30 Apr (2), JP (KHa). MC: 6, TWFP, 17 May (DSt); 5, RCA, 18 May (DJ). LD: **3 Jun**, Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); **31 May**, TWFP (DSt); 18 May (2), Urbana (RC); 5 May, Pomona (KM, DK, JD).

Nashville Warbler

EA: 19 Apr, Atwood (KM); 29 Apr, JP (PC); 30 Apr (12), Urbana (RC). MC: **88**, TWFP, 17 May (DSt) - **all-time high count**; 26, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM); 23, nw. Champaign Co, 10 May (RC, GL). LD: 11 Jun, Chi (EW); 23 May (3), Carl.L (KM); 23 May, Urbana (RC).

Northern Parula

EA: 5 Apr (2), Pomona (KM); 26 Apr, Henderson Co (CL); 28 Apr, Lodge Park (Piatt Co) (RC); 5 May (2), Chi (JL). MC: 17, Jackson Co, 21 Apr (KM); 12, Palos, 20 May (WS); 10, Carl.L, 28 Apr (DK); 10, Urbana, 18 May (RC); 7, TWFP, 17 May (DSt). LD: 5 Jun, Wilmette (EW).

Yellow Warbler

EA: 20 Apr, Atwood (KM); 30 Apr (male), JP (KHa, PC); 30 Apr,



Loggerhead Shrike. Montrose Beach, Cook Co. 4 June 1997. Photo by Kanae Hirabayashi.

Urbana (RC). MC: 15, Carl.L, 30 Apr (DK); 15, nw. Champaign Co, 10 May (RC, GL); 13, JP, 8 May (PC). LD: 13 Jun, Chi (EW).

Chestnut-sided Warbler

EA: 5 May, Pomona (KM, DK, JD); 7 May, Urbana (RC); 8 May (3 males), JP (KHa, PC). MC: **43**, TWFP, 17 May (DSt); 13, Carl.L, 17 May (KM); 9, RCA, 20 May (EW). LD: 11 Jun, Chi (EW); 2 Jun, Urbana (RC); 23 May (3), Carl.L (KM).

Magnolia Warbler

EA: 1 May, Pomona (DK, MJ); 5 May (2), JP (KHa, G&SDa); 8 May, Urbana (RC). MC: **59**, TWFP, 17 May (DSt); 17, JP, 18 May (PC); 7, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM). LD: 11 Jun, Chi (JL); 8 Jun (3), Urbana (RC); 23 May (2), Carl.L (KM).

Cape May Warbler

EA: 3 May, JP (DL); 8 May, so. Clinton Co (KM); 8 May (3), Urbana (RC). LD: 2 Jun (female), Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 10 May, Carl.L (DK). Poorly reported, with maxima to 5 birds. "Only warbler that seemed unusually low; I had less than 15% of last year's numbers, despite more coverage in May." (DSt).

Black-throated Blue Warbler

EA: 5 May (male), JP (GS, PC et al.); 8 May (female), Urbana (RC). MC: 6, JP, 18 May (PC et al.). LD: **17 Jun**, IBSP (MW). 3 Jun (female), Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 31 May (female), JP (KC); 16 May (male), Urbana (RC, EC).

Yellow-rumped Warbler

EA: 25 Mar (2), Urbana (RC); 26 Mar (female), JP (PC). MC: 220, Palos, 13 May (DSt); 62, Union Co, 27 Apr (KM); 50, Palos, 20 May (DSt) - a late concentration; 44, nw. Champaign Co, 10 May (GL, RC); 38, JP, 16 Apr (PC). LD: **7 Jun** (singing male), Sparta (Randolph Co) (*TD); 25 May (female), JP (PC, SCa); 17 May (2), Carl.L (KM); 17 May, Henderson Co (CL).

Black-throated Green Warbler

EA: 6 Apr, Mermet L CA (KM); 30 Apr (male), JP (KHa, PC); 2 May, Urbana (RC). MC: **39**, Palos, 20 May (DSt); 14, RCA, 20 May (EW); 5, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM). LD: 7 Jun (female), TWFP (DSt); 3 Jun, Rockford (DW); 2 Jun, Urbana (RC); 2 Jun, Heyworth (MF, TB); 17 May (4), Carl.L (KM).

Blackburnian Warbler

EA: 30 Apr, Atwood (KM); 4 May (male), JP (PC et al.); 7 May, Urbana (RC). MC: 25, Waterfall Glen FP (DuPage Co), 21 May (RF); 24, Palos, 23 May (DSt). LD: 8 Jun, Chi (JL); 25 May, Urbana (RC); 17 May (2), Carl.L (KM).

Yellow-throated Warbler

EA: 27 Mar, Big Muddy River Levee (Union Co) (DK); 29 Mar, Pine Hills (Jackson Co) (PSw); 12 Apr, Urbana (RC); 1 May, Sugar River FP (Winnebago Co) (DW). MC: 11, Pomona, 18 Apr (KM); 7, Carl.L, 28 Apr (DK); 5, Lodge Park (Piatt Co), 28 Apr (RC).

Pine Warbler

EA: 22 Mar (2), Pomona (KM); 2 Apr, se. Saline Co (JD); 13 Apr, Fermi (fide EW); 15 Apr, Urbana (RC); 19 Apr (male), JP (PC, m.ob). MC: 4, Jackson Co, 12 Apr (KM); 4, JP, 5 May (PC, WS). LD: 28 May (female), Chi (EW); 25 May, Mundelein (SD); 18 May, Urbana (RC).

Prairie Warbler

EA: 13 Apr, CONWR (KM); 30 Apr, Urbana (RC); 1 May (male), JP (PC). MC: 8, Heron Pond, 27 Apr (KM). LD: 10 May, Mahomet (RC, GL).

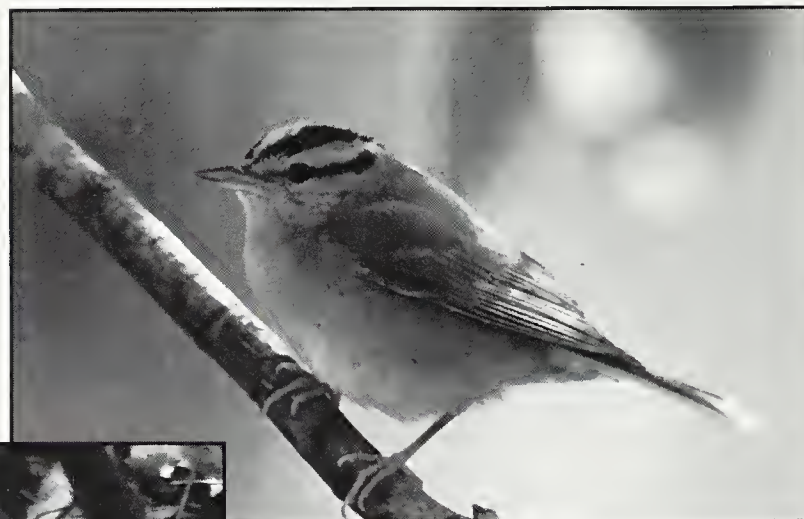
Palm Warbler

EA: **29 Mar**, Carl.L (*DK) - **record early arrival**; 3 Apr, se. Saline Co (JD); 25 Apr, JP (PC); 26 Apr, Castle Rock SP (Ogle Co) (LH); 26 Apr, Henderson Co (CL). MC: **237**, so. De Kalb Co, 10 May (DS) - record spring high count; 95, Chi, 8 May (EW, WS); 91, JP, 10 May (PC et al.); 81, nw. Champaign Co, 10 May (RC, GL); 40, Union Co,

3 May (KM). LD: 31 May, JP (PC); 17 May, Monticello (Piatt Co) and Mahomet (RC, GL, EC); 10 May (3), Clinton Co (KM).

Bay-breasted Warbler

EA: 1 May, Mermet L CA (DK, MJ); 3 May, Kaskaskia River (Clinton Co) (DK); 8 May, CBG (DJ); 8 May, Urbana (RC); 11 May (2),



Worm-eating Warbler. Washington Park, Springfield, Sangamon Co. 6 May 1997. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Worm-eating Warbler. Evanston's Pekin Woods. Cook County. 13 May 1997. This bird was here between 10 and 16 May. Photo by Eric Walters.



Rockford (DW). MC: 15, TWFP, 24 May (DSt); 15, Palos, 27 May (DSt); 5, Carl.L, 17 May (KM). LD: 3 Jun (2), Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 29

May, Rock Island Co (CL); 25 May, Urbana (RC); 23 May, Carl.L (KM).

Blackpoll Warbler

EA: 27 Apr, CONWR (KM); 30 Apr, Urbana (RC); 2 May (male), JP (SF). MC: 16, Palos, 30 May (DSt); 9, JP, 25 May (PC, SCa); 7, Carl.L, 17 May (KM). LD: 5 Jun, Chi (EW); 3 Jun, Urbana (RC); 25 May (3), Mermet L CA (KM et al.).

Cerulean Warbler

EA: 20 Apr, Pomona (KM); 30 Apr (male), CBG (DJ); 3 May, SRSP (C&JMc); 6 May (male), JP (KC). MC: 7, Pomona, 30 Apr (KM); 3, Urbana, 18 May (RC); 3, JP, 7 May (KHa, m.ob). LD: **6 Jun** (male), JP (PC); 31 May (female), TWFP (DSt).

Black-and-white Warbler

EA: 5 Apr, Pomona (KM); 30 Apr (2), CBG (DJ); 30 Apr, JP (KHa, GW). MC: 26, Palos, 20 May (WS); 12, RCA, 20 May (EW). LD: 8 Jun (male), JP (PC, SCa); 5 Jun (male), Old School FP (Lake Co) (SD); 28 May, Carl.L (DK); 25 May, Urbana (RC); 24 May, Pine Hills (Union Co) (KM, RC).

American Redstart

EA: 20 Apr (2), Union Co (KM); 6 May (2), JP (PC, SF). MC: 75, Carl.L, 28 May (DK); 50, Monticello (Piatt Co) and Mahomet, 17 May (GL, EC, RC). LD: 18 Jun, JP (DA, JR); 13 Jun, Chi (EW); 3 Jun (3), Urbana (RC).

Prothonotary Warbler

EA: 14 Apr, se. Saline Co (JD); 14 Apr (2), Union Co (KM); 1 May (male), CBG (DJ); 3-9 May, Chi (fide EW); 4 May, Urbana (RT, RC). MC: 18, Union Co, 20 Apr (KM). LD: **2 Jun** (male), Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 30 May (male), Palos (Swallow Cliff FP) (DSt); 23 May, Chi (KHi); 20 May, Dan Wright Woods FP (Lake Co) (SH); 20 May, Pecat (DW); 11 May, Urbana (RC et al.).

Worm-eating Warbler

EA: 19 Apr (2), Atwood (KM); 4 May, Urbana (RC); 10 May, Zion (Lake Co) (SH); 10-16 May, Evanston (EW, m.ob). MC: 11, Atwood, 30 Apr (KM). LD: **30 May**, Palos (DSt,WS); 11 May, Urbana (RC).

Ovenbird

EA: 30 Apr, JP (GW); 30 Apr (3), Atwood (KM); 1 May, Urbana (RC). MC: 55, TWFP, 17 May (DSt); 26, JP, 8 May (PC); 12, nw. Champaign Co, 10 May (GL, RC). LD: 16 Jun, Evanston (EW); 8 Jun, Urbana (RC).

Northern Waterthrush

EA: 27 Apr, Pine Hills (Union Co) (KM); 30 Apr, Urbana (RC). MC: 26, JP, 8 May (PC); 20, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM); 14, Urbana, 3 May (RC). LD: 9 Jun, Grant South FP (CF); 2 Jun, JP (PC); 1 Jun, Urbana (RC); 25 May, Mermert L CA (KM et al.).

Louisiana Waterthrush

EA: **15 Mar**, Pomona (KM); 5 Apr, SRSP (C&JMc); 16 Apr, Urbana (RC). LD: 13 May, Dan Wright Woods FP (Lake Co) (SH); 13 May, Rock Cut SP (DW). A poor season.

Kentucky Warbler

EA: 25 Apr (6), Pomona (KM); 30 Apr (2), Urbana (RC); 10 May, Wilmette (JE, EW, IM). MC: 11, Pomona, 30 Apr (KM). LD: 28 May, TWFP (DSt); 25 May, Urbana (RC). Others: 20 May, Rock Cut SP (DW); 17 May (female), SRSP (C&JMc); 17 May, TWFP (DSt); 13 May, M.Arb (fide EW).

Connecticut Warbler

EA: 17 May, White Heath (Piatt Co) (RC, GL, EC); 19 May, Carl.L (DK); 22 May, SRSP (C&JMc); 23 May (male), JP (PC et al.). MC: 3, Urbana, 25 May (RC). LD: 12 Jun, Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 1 Jun, Urbana (RC); 28 May, Carl.L (DK).

Mourning Warbler

EA: 7 May (2), Carl.L (KM); 8 May (male), JP (PC); 8 May, Urbana (RC). MC: **30**, Chi (Grant Park), 30 May (DSt) - all-time record high count; 10, Chi (Grant Park), 3 Jun (DSt); 7, Carl.L, 28 May (DK); 6, Urbana, 25 May (RC). LD: 12 Jun, Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 11 Jun (2), Chi (EW); 1 Jun (3), Urbana (RC).

Common Yellowthroat

EA: 18 Apr, Pomona (KM); 21 Apr, Carl.L (DK); 1 May, Urbana (RC); 2 May (2), JP (SF, KHa). MC: 51, Chi (Grant Park), 30 May (DSt) - a late concentration; 26, JP, 8 May and 18 May (PC); 19, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM); 19, nw. Champaign Co, 10 May (RC, GL). LD: 13 Jun (2), Chi (EW).

Hooded Warbler

EA: 19 Apr, Atwood (KM); 29 Apr (male), JP (KHa, SF); 3 May, Mahomet (RC). MC: **3** (singing males), RCA, 18 May (DJ,SD); 2, TWFP, 17 May (DSt); 2, JP, 18 May (PC, SF). LD: 3 Jun (female), Chi (UIC campus) (DSt); 18 May, Urbana (RC). Poor numbers in so. IL (KM).

Wilson's Warbler

EA: 6 May (male), JP (PC); 8 May, Chi (EW,WS); 8 May, Urbana (RC). MC: **58**, Chi (Grant Park), 30 May (DSt); 15, Chi



Summer Tanager, Washington Park, Springfield, IL, Sangamon Co. 5 May 1997. Photo by Dennis Oelunke.

(Grant Park), 3 Jun (DSt); 10, White Heath and Monticello (Piatt Co), 17 May (RC, GL, EC); 10, JP, 18 May (PC). LD: 18 Jun, Evanston (JE); 1 Jun, Urbana (RC); 23 May (7), Carl.L (KM).

Canada Warbler

EA: 11 May (male), JP (WS, PC et al.); 14 May, Lyons Woods FP (Lake Co) (EW). MC: 22, Chi (Grant Park), 30 May (DSt); 11, Palos, 20 May (WS). LD: 10 Jun, Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 1 Jun, Urbana (RC); 28 May (4), Carl.L (DK).

Yellow-breasted Chat

EA: 30 Apr (3), Pomona (KM); 30 Apr, Carl.L (DK); 6 May, JP (KHa); 8 May, Urbana (RC). MC: 6, Heron Pond, 25 May (KM et al.). LD: **13 Jun**, Evanston (JE); 2 Jun, Rock Cut SP (DW); 28 May (2), Carl.L (DK).

Summer Tanager

EA: 19 Apr (2), Atwood (KM); 1 May, M.Arb (m.ob, fide EW); 2 May, Urbana (RT); 5 May (1st year), Wilmette (EW, ph.); 5 May (1st year male), Ottawa (LaSalle Co) (C&JMc). MC: 4, Atwood, 30 Apr (KM); 3, LChau, 29 May (RBj); 2, M.Arb, 3 May (EO fide EW). LD: **12 Jun** (1st year male), Chi (KHi, JPu); 29 May, Urbana (RC); 24-28 May (female), at suet feeder, Inverness (Cook Co) (*, ph.-TT, CWe); 26 May (male), TWFP (DSt); 26 May (1st year), near McClaughry Spring FP (Cook Co) (EW, ph.); 20 May (1st year), Wauk (fide EW). Unusually high number of reports of singles from northern areas.

Scarlet Tanager

EA: 20 Apr, Atwood (KM); 1 May, CBG (DJ). MC: 20, Palos, 30 May (DSt); 8, Mackinaw, 17 May (MF); 6, Conkey Woods FP (Cook Co), 26 May (CA). LD: 16 Jun, Evanston (EW); 29 May (2), Urbana (RC).

WESTERN TANAGER

LD: 18 May, Arlington Heights (Lake Arlington) (*JB et al.). Fourteenth spring record for IL.

Northern Cardinal

MC: 75, Carl.L, 10 Mar (DK).



Hooded Warbler, Washington Park, Springfield, IL, Sangamon Co. 7 May 1997. Photo by Dennis Oelunke.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

EA: 30 Apr, statewide: Pomona (KM); Queen's Lake (Clinton Co) (DK); Urbana (3) (RC); Adams Co (KV); JP (male) (KHa). MC: 50+, Urbana, 11 May (RC); 49, Evanston, 17 May (JE); 35, TWFP, 17 May (DSt); 18, Chi, 8 May (EW, WS); 17 (at feeder), 6-19 May, Rockford (DW); 10, Carl.L., 23 May (KM). LD: 20 Jun (male), JP (KC); 2 Jun (2), Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 29 May, Urbana (RC).

Blue Grosbeak

EA: 9 Apr, se. Saline Co (JD); 12 Apr, Pomona (CS, KM); 10 May, Adams Co (KV). MC: 4, Union Co, 3 May (KM). LD: 28-30 May (at feeder), Holcomb, (Ogle Co) (DW); 25 May (male), EStL (DK).

Indigo Bunting

EA: 14 Apr, Boone Co (AB); 25 Apr, Pomona (KM); 28 Apr, Carl.L (DK); 30 Apr, Urbana (RC); 3 May, SRSP (C&JMc). MC: 68, Clinton Co, 10 May (KM); 41, nw. Champaign Co, 10 May (RC, GL); 9 (at feeder), Holcomb (Ogle Co), 17 May (DW). LD: 14 Jun (2), Evanston and Wilmette (EW); 11 Jun, Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 1 Jun, Urbana (RC).

Dickcissel

EA: 30 Apr, Pomona (KM); 1 May (at feeder), Mendota (JH); 3 May, Santa Fe (DK); 5-9 May (at feeder), Downers Grove (*RF). MC: 21, Union Co, 3 May (KM). LD: 24 May, Chi (EW). Other: 17 May, Henderson Co (CL).

Eastern Towhee

EA: 3 Mar (overwintered?), Lake Co (JSw); 8 Mar, Union Co (KM); 26 Mar (male), JP (MT, MSi). MC: 19, Chi, 8 May (EW, WS); 13, Carl.L., 23 May (KM); 10, Carl.L., 23 Mar (DK). LD: 5 Jun (female), Chi (EW).

American Tree Sparrow

EA: 28 Feb, Evanston (EW). MC: 25, near Gridley (McLean Co), 31 Mar (MF, TB). LD: 26 Apr, JP (PC).

Chipping Sparrow

EA: 22 Mar, Union Co (KM); 30 Mar, Adams Co (KV); 3 Apr (4), Boone Co (AB); 3 Apr, Swallow Cliff Woods (Cook Co) (CT). MC: 32, Union Co, 21 Apr (KM); 23, Braidwood, 19 May (EW); 21, nw. Champaign Co, 10 May (RC, GL).

Clay-colored Sparrow

EA: 29 Apr, Urbana (RC); 30 Apr, JP (DM, PC). MC: 9, Chi, 18 May (JL); 8, Chi (Grant Park), 8 May (DSt); 6 (likely distinct from preceding record), Chi (Grant Park), 10 May (DSt); 6, Riverside (Des Plaines River, Cook Co), 8 May (RBe); 4, Du Page Co, 17 May (JPo). LD: 30 May (2), Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 28 May, Chi (JO); 23 May, Chi (GW, JL); 10 May, Niantic (Macon Co) (MD). Widely reported, with unusually large number of reports from ne. IL for second consecutive year.

BREWER'S SPARROW

LD: 25 Apr (overwintered), Chi (Lincoln Park Bird Sanctuary) (JL). This bird was found singing throughout the spring, beginning 22 Feb (KH fide RB).

Field Sparrow

EA: 8 Mar (4), Johnson Co (KM); 19 Mar (2), Carl.L (DK); 22 Mar, Urbana (RC); 25 Mar, JP (PC). MC: 30, Heron Pond, 19 Apr (KM); 21, Braidwood, 19 May (EW); 16, JP, 30 Apr (PC). LD: 4 Jun (male), JP (PC).

Vesper Sparrow

EA: 23 Mar (3), Saline Co (JD); 25 Mar, Monroe Co (KM); 26 Mar, Collison (Vermilion Co) (RC); 28 Mar, Rock Island Co (CL); 1 Apr,



Clay-colored Sparrow. Washington Park, Springfield, IL, Sangamon Co. 21 May 1997. This is a late date for central Illinois for this species. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Chi (Montrose) (KHa). LD: 10 May, Clinton Co (KM); 4 May, RCA (SH). Decreasing numbers?

Lark Sparrow

EA: 19 Apr, Sang.L (MD); 19 Apr, Middlefork (SB). MC: 5, Green River CA area (Lee Co), 27 Apr (RC); 4, Winnebago Co, 10 May (DW). LD: 5 May (2), Union Co (KM, DK, JD). Others: 29 Apr, Mackinaw (MF); 3 May (2), Union Co (KM); 10 May, De Kalb Co (DS); 19 May, Braidwood (EW).

Savannah Sparrow

EA: 22 Mar, Winthrop Harbor (PSw); 26 Mar (4), Carl.L (DK); 27 Mar, JP (PC); 29 Mar, Clin.L (RC, MRe). MC: 30, Evanston, 8 May (JE); 18, Chi, 8 May (EW, WS); 15, CCNWR, 27 Apr (KM); 12, JP, 8 May (PC). LD: 30 May (3), Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 22 May (2), Carl.L (DK).

Grasshopper Sparrow

EA: 19 Apr, Pulaski Co (KM); 25 Apr, Mattieson SP (La Salle Co) (C&JMc); 26 Apr, Nachusa Grasslands (Lee Co) (RC, m.ob); 30 Apr, JP (PC). MC: 11, Braidwood, 19 May (EW); 6, Carl.L., 28 May (DK). LD: 4-5 Jun, Chi (JPu, m.ob); 18 May, Roscoe (Winnebago Co) (DW).

Henslow's Sparrow

EA: 14 Apr (3), se. Saline Co (JD); 20 Apr (4), Longreach Road (Pulaski Co) (DK); 26 Apr (4), Nachusa Grasslands (Lee Co) (SB, m.ob). MC: 5, Plum Creek FP (Cook Co), 10 May (fide EW). Others: 10 May (3), Mahomet (RC, GL). A poor spring.

Le Conte's Sparrow

EA: 3-4 Apr, Chi (KHi); 5 Apr, Clin.L (RC); 13 Apr, se. Saline Co (JD); 2 May, JP (KHa, PC). LD: 10 May, Rockford (DW); 8 May, Chi (EW, WS). Few reports.

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow

EA: 17 May, Mahomet (GL, RC, EC); 18 May, Chi (Montrose) (AS). LD: 11 Jun, Chi (JPu); 23 May, Chi (KHa); 23 May, Wilmette (JE, ph.). Few reports.

Fox Sparrow

EA: 1 Mar (5), Clin.L (RC); 9 Mar (3), Rockford (DW); 17 Mar (2), JP (PC). MC: 60, Urbana, 22 Mar (RC); 38, JP, 28 Mar (PC). LD: 30 Apr, JP (PC). A weak passage.

Song Sparrow

EA: 19 Feb, JP (PC); 28 Feb, Boone Co (AB). MC: 92, JP, 27 Mar (PC); 60, Wilmette, 28 Mar (JE); 50, Carl.L., 10 Mar (DK).

Lincoln's Sparrow

EA: 25 Mar, JP (*PC); 19 Apr, near Utica (La Salle Co) (C&JMc); 29 Apr, JP (PC); 30 Apr., statewide. MC: 106, Chi/JP, 8 May [= 50 at Grant Park (DSt); 31 at JP (PC); 25 at Lincoln Park (EW, WS)]; 6, Mackinaw, 17 May (MF). LD: 9 Jun, Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 7 Jun, Heyworth (MF, TB); 6 Jun, JP (PC); 30 May (8), Chi (Grant Park) (DSt) - a late concentration; 29 May, Urbana (RC); 12 May, Carl.L (KM, DK). Record numbers at Chicago.

Swamp Sparrow

EA: 27 Feb, Urbana (RC); 8 Mar (2), CCNWR (KM); 25 Mar (4), Boone Co (AB); 25 Mar (3), JP (PC). MC: 185, Chi (Grant Park), 8 May (DSt); 111, De Kalb Co, 10 May (DS); 30, Carl.L., 9 Apr (DK); 25, Oakwood, 15 Mar (KM). LD: 10 Jun, JP (PC); 6 Jun, Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 11 May, Urbana (RC); 10 May (4), Clinton Co (KM).

White-throated Sparrow

EA: 5 Apr, JP (PC). MC: 1275, Chi (Grant Park), 10 May (DSt) - all-time record high count; 505+, Chi, 8 May (EW, WS); 400+, Urbana, 1-3 May (RC); 51, Jackson Co, 21 Apr (KM). LD: 8 Jun (singing), Urbana (RC); 1 Jun, JP (PC, SCa); 17 May (2), Carl.L (KM).

Meadowlark

White-crowned Sparrow

EA: 21 Apr, Adams Co (KV); 26 Apr (6), Chi (JL); 1 May, Urbana (RC). MC: 80, Chi (Grant Park), 10 May (DSt); 47, nw. Champaign Co, 10 May (RC, GL); 35, Union Co, 15 Mar (KM). LD: 13 Jun, Chi (RH); 10 May, Carl.L (KM). Other: (*gambelii* form) 18-21 May, Chi (JO).

Harris' Sparrow

Four reports: 5 May, near Shirland (Winnebago Co) (BG); 10 May, near Durand (Winnebago Co) (DW); 10 May, Carl.L (DK, KM); 15-16 May, Wolf Lake (Cook Co) (m.ob. fide EW).

Dark-eyed Junco

EA: 1 Mar (6), JP (PC). MC: 154, JP, 28 Mar (PC); 100, Carl.L, 10 Mar (DK). LD: **22 May-4 Jun** ("female oregon"), Chi (JPu, EW, m.ob.); **1 Jun**, se. Saline Co (JD); **23 May**, Moraine Hills SP (McHenry Co) (RHi).

Lapland Longspur

MC: 1000, Arcola, 22 Mar (RC); 1000, Philo (Champaign Co), 30 Mar (RC). LD: 13 Apr (200+), ne. Kane Co (GW, CW); 12 Apr, Campbell's Airport (Lake Co) (DJ); 12 Apr, Normal (McLean Co) (MF).

Smith's Longspur

EA: 11 Mar, Gifford (Champaign Co) (RC). MC: 200, Arcola, 22 Mar (RC); 40, Clin.L, 22 Mar (MD). LD: 19 Apr (50+), Bismarck (Vermilion Co) (SB et al.).

Snow Bunting

EA: 19 Feb, JP (PC). MC: 400, near Shirland (Winnebago Co), 15 Mar (BG); 19, LaSalle, 9 Mar (C&JMc). LD: 21 Mar, Evanston (EW).

Bobolink

EA: 29 Apr, Springbrook Prairie (Du Page Co) (RF); 30 Apr, Pomona (KM); 1 May (male), near Ottawa (La Salle Co) (C&JMc); 3 May, White Heath (Piatt Co) (RC); 3 May, Normal (MF); 6 May (3), Boone Co (AB). MC: 41 (all males), near O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), 2 May (*TD); 22, Buffalo Creek FP (Lake Co), ? May (DJ); 11, Chi, 19 May (EW); 8, near Durand (Winnebago Co), 10 May (DW). LD: 13 Jun (4), Chi (KHi, EW). Very poor numbers over most of IL.

Red-winged Blackbird

EA: 19 Feb, Urbana (RC); 20 Feb (female), JP (PC); 21 Feb (5), Boone Co (AB). MC: **10,000**, Carl.L, 10 Mar (DK); 513, JP, 21 Mar (PC). LD: 10 May (152), JP (PC et al.).

Eastern Meadowlark

EA: 20 Feb, Adams Co (KV); 23 Feb, Leroy (McLean Co) (RC); 9 Mar (2), JP (PC). MC: 85, Monroe Co, 25 Mar (KM); 20, Carl.L, 10 Mar (DK).

Western Meadowlark

EA: 8 Mar, Bellflower (McLean Co) (RC); 20 Mar, so. Clinton Co (KM). MC: 4, near Durand (Winnebago Co), 10 May (DW). LD: 18 May, McHenry Co (RBa).

Yellow-headed Blackbird

EA: 19 Apr (male), LCal (WM); 23 Apr, Crystal Lake (McHenry Co) (RBa). MC: 6, LCal, 4-10 May (JL, WM). LD: **29 May** (1st year male), Evanston (EW); 24 May (different 1st year male), Evanston (EW). Others: 10 May, near Rockton (Winnebago Co) (DW); 11 May (female), Chi (Montrose) (CA).

Rusty Blackbird

EA: 22 Feb, Clin.L (RC); 1 Mar (2), Zander Woods FP (Cook Co) (WM). MC: **500+**, Clin.L, 8 Mar (RC); **500**, Santa Fe, 27 Mar (DK); 150, UCCA, 15 Mar (KM); 40, De Kalb Co, 19 Apr (DS). LD: **18 May** (female), Evanston (JE); 7-8 May (4), Fermi (EW, m.ob); 27 Apr, CONWR (KM).

Brewer's Blackbird

EA: 22 Feb, Clin.L (RC); 2 Apr (male), JP (PC). MC: 30, CENWR, 8 Mar (KM) - only record of season at that site; 6, Fremont, 19-20 Apr (DJ et al.). LD: 20 Apr, Chi (JL).

Common Grackle

EA: 22 Feb, Champaign (RC); 25 Feb, Rock Island Co (CL); 1 Mar (2), JP (PC). MC: **30,000**, Carl.L, 10 Mar (DK); 1760, Evanston, 21 Mar (EW). LD: 29 Apr (12 migrating), JP (PC).

Brown-headed Cowbird

EA: 17 Mar (4), Frank Holten SP (St. Clair Co) (DK); 1 Mar, Rock Island Co (CL); 10 Mar (male), JP (PC). MC: 180, Evanston, 27 Mar (EW). LD: 11 May (4), JP (PC).

Orchard Oriole

EA: 21 Apr, Union Co (KM); 30 Apr (1st year male), JP (WS, SF); 2 May (male), Urbana (RC). MC: 10, Union Co, 5 May (KM, DK, JD); 7, Mahomet, 10 May (RC, GL); 3, JP, 8 May (KHa, PC); 3, Chi, 24 May (JL); 3, Roscoe (Winnebago Co), 18 May (DW). LD: 13 Jun (1st year male), Chi (RH, KHi, EW); 6 Jun (male), Chi (EW); 29 May, Urbana (RBo, RC).

Baltimore Oriole

EA: 25 Apr, Pomona (KM); 29 Apr, Carl.L (DK); 1 May (male), Ottawa (La Salle Co) (C&JMc); 2 May (male), Urbana (RC); 5 May (2), Rockford (DW); 5 May (6), Boone Co (AB); 6 May (+), ne. IL (m.ob.). MC: 39, Urbana, 8 May (RC); 21, Palos, 16 May (DSt); 19, Chi, 8 May (EW, WS). LD: 12 Jun (male), JP (PC).

Purple Finch

EA: 1 Mar, Adams Co (KV); 2 Mar (3), Urbana (RC); 7 Mar, Carl.L (DK); 1 Apr, Palos (CT); 3 Apr (5), JP (SF, PC). MC: 13 (at feeder), se. Saline Co, 30 Mar (JD). LD: 9 May, Chi (EW); 2 May (3), Rockford (DW); 13 Apr (8), Giant City SP (Jackson Co) (KM).

House Finch

EA: 10 Mar (3), Carl.L (DK); 17 Mar (3), JP (PC). MC: 50 (migrants), Evanston, 27 Mar (EW).

Red Crossbill

EA: 22 Mar (3), IBSP (AS, PSw); 1 Apr, LChau (RBj, SBj, SCo). MC: 10 (at feeders), LChau, Apr/May (RBj, SBj, SCo). LD: 25 May, LChau (RBj, SBj, SCo).

Pine Siskin

LD: 17 Apr, Urbana (RC). None reported from most sites.

American Goldfinch

EA: 10 Mar (5), Carl.L (DK). MC: 50, Wilmette, 10 May (EW, JE, IM); 44, Jackson Co, 12 Apr (KM).

Eurasian Tree Sparrow

30 Mar, Table Grove (Fulton Co) (KM); 1 Apr, **Henderson Co** (CL).

EXOTICS:

Ringed Turtle-Dove

4 May (flyby; species undetermined), Bend Road (Madison Co) (DK, FH); 11 May, Urbana (RC). See also next entry.

Eurasian Collared-Dove

Documented at Urbana, 24-25 May (*RC, GL), with additional reports from Carl.L and Jacksonville. The IL status of this species vs. the very similar Ringed Turtle-Dove is unknown. Most such doves have been assumed to be feral Ringed Turtle-Doves, but few identifications are backed by details. Both forms may now be colonizing Illinois, and observers are encouraged to take care in identifying, monitoring, and reporting populations. All such data will be considered in a pending IORC review of the status of these forms in IL.

Monk Parakeet

MC: 14, JP, 12 Mar (PC) (but no tallies taken of colonies in adjacent residential areas). No other reports. Note that this species has been present in JP since 1979, and that IORC will re-review this species' status, with possible addition to the list of accepted Illinois species, in 1999. Observers are encouraged to provide information on populations throughout IL, including long-term stability whenever possible.

This index includes the names of all bird species mentioned in articles in Volume 6, except for the Field Notes, Christmas Bird Count, and Spring Bird Count, which are listed in taxonomic order and can be easily accessed.

- Avocet, American, 46, 130, 131
 Bent, Nancy, Ringed Turtle-Doves in Brookfield, 17-18
 -----, Avian Counterpoint: Reply to Montgomery, 59-61
 Blackbird, Brewer's, 54, 89
 Red-winged, 13, 48, 51, 54
 Yellow-headed, 54, 89
 Bluebird, Eastern, 50
 Bobolink, 54
 Bobwhite, Northern, 13
 Bohlen, H. David, Broad-billed Hummingbird: An Unlikely New Addition to the Illinois List, 42-44
 -----, First Band-tailed Pigeon and its Status in Eastern North America, 82-85
 Bufflehead, 104
 Bunting, Indigo, 15, 48, 52, 89
 Painted, 66
 Pallas', 6
 Reed, 6
 Caracara, Crested, 4
 Cardinal, Northern, 47, 52
 Carpenter, Lynne, Putting up a feeder leads to lifetime of birding, 19
 Catbird, Gray, 50, 89
 Chapel, Robert, Field Notes: The 1996 Fall Season, 67-80
 Chat, Yellow-breasted, 15, 48, 52
 Chickadee, Black-capped, 50, 104
 Carolina, 15, 50
 Chukar, 87
 Clyne, Paul, Field Notes: The 1996-97 Winter Season, 142-147
 Cormorant, Double-crested, 130
 Neotropic, 3, 88
 Olivaceous, *see* Neotropic
 Cowbird, Brown-headed, 47, 48, 49, 51, 53, 54, 66
 Crane, Greater Sandhill, 24
 Little Brown, 24
 Sandhill, 24, 25, 130, 131
 Creeper, Brown, 15
 Crossbill, Red, 83, 87, 89
 Crow, American, 89, 104
 Fish, 15
 Cuckoo, Black-billed, 131, 132
 Yellow-billed, 49
 Danley, Robert, Field Notes: The 1996-1997 Winter Season, 110-119
 De Vore, Sheryl, Great Little-known Birding Hotspots in Illinois: IOS Members share secret birding areas near their homes, 14-16
 Dickeissel, 52
 Dove, African Collared, 17, 18
 European Collared, 18, 132
 Mourning, 17
 Ringed Turtle-, 17, 18, 87, 89, 132
 Rock, 125, 129
 Dowitcher, Short-billed, 130
 Duck, Harlequin, 88, 129
 Mallard X Wood, 88
 Wood, 15
 Dunlin, 15, 130
 Eagle, Bald, 15, 89, 104, 105, 130
 Golden, 15, 89
 Egret, Cattle, 46
 Great, 3
 Snowy, 15
 Falcon, Peregrine, 125
 Field Notes, *see* Chapel, Robert; Clyne, Paul; Danley, Robert; Kleen, Vernon
 Finch, House, 54, 89
 Flicker, Common, *see* Northern
 Gilded, 4
 Northern, 4
 Flycatcher, Acadian, 15, 49
 Asian Brown, 5
 Cordilleran, 4
 Gray-breasted, *see* Asian Brown
 Great-crested, 15, 49
 Least, 49
 Pacific-slope, 4
 Western, *see* Cordilleran or Pacific-slope
 Willow, 48, 49
 Gallinule, Purple, 140
 Gannet, Northern, 3
 Gnat-catcher, Black-tailed, 5
 Blue-gray, 50
 California, 5
 Goldeneye, Common, 104, 125
 Goldfinch, American, 54, 89
 Goose, *Anser albifrons frontalis*, *see* Greater White-fronted
 Anser anser, *see* Western Greylag
 Anser anser favirostris, 60
 Anser X Branta, 59, 61
 Anser cygnoides, 58
 Branta canadensis X Anser albifrons, 58, 59, 61
 B.c. interior, 58, 61
 B.c. maxima, 58, 59
 Canada, 58, 61, 129, 130
 Greater White-fronted, 58, 60, 61, 89
 Lesser/Richardson's, 58
 Ross's, 89, 129
 Snow, 89
 Western Greylag, 58, 59, 60
 Grackle, Common, 54
 Grebe, Clark's, 3
 Horned, 88
 Pied-billed, 88
 Red-necked, 109, 129
 Western, 3, 45
 Grosbeak, Evening, 89
 Rose-breasted, 52
 Gull, Black-headed, 4
 Common Black-headed, *see* Black-headed
 Great Black-backed, 88, 129
 Herring, 104
 Iceland, 88
 Lesser Black-backed, 88, 129, 130
 Ring-billed, 104, 138, 141
 Thayer's, 130
 Harrier, Northern, 104
 Hawk, Broad-winged, 15, 62, 63
 Cooper's, 15, 82
 Red-shouldered, 15
 Red-tailed, 104
 Rough-legged, 89
 Swainson's, 62, 63, 130
 Heron, Great Blue, 3, 89, 104, 130
 Green, 3, 15
 Green-backed, *see* Green
 Little Blue, 15
 Striated, 3
 Hickman, Scot, and Dale Birkenholz, Changes in Species Designations of North American Birds: Updating Your Field Guides and Life Lists, 2-7
 Hummingbird, Broad-billed, 42, 43, 44, 45
 Dusky, 43
 Ruby-throated, 64, 130, 131
 Rufous, 64
 Jay, Blue, 50
 Florida Scrub-, 4
 Gray-breasted, *see* Mexican
 Island Scrub-, 4
 Pinyon, 83
 Scrub, *see* Florida Scrub-, Island Scrub-, or Western Scrub-
 Mexican, 5
 Western Scrub-, 4
 Johnson, David B., and Alan F. Stokie, The Illinois 1996 Christmas Bird Count, 87-103
 Johnson, David B., and Richard Biss, The 1996-97 Record Invasion of Snowy Owls in Illinois, With a Summary of Records from Illinois and Lower Lake Michigan, 124-127
 Junco, Dark-eyed, 104
 Killdeer, 15, 23, 139, 141
 Kingbird, Eastern, 49
 Kingfisher, Belted, 15
 Kinglet, Golden-crowned, 15
 Ruby-crowned, 15, 64
 Kite, American Swallow-tailed, *see* Swallow-tailed
 Black-shouldered, *see* White-tailed
 Mississippi, 15
 Swallow-tailed, 3
 White-tailed, 3, 139
 Kittiwake, Black-legged, 141
 Kleen, Vernon M., Field Notes: The 1996 Breeding Season Report, 26-38
 -----, Wow! What A Day! One of Illinois' best birders adds three new state species to his list in a single day!, 45-46
 Kleen, Vernon M., and Peter C. Petersen, The Illinois 1997 Spring Bird Count, 128-133
 Lark, Horned, 49
 Lerczak, Thomas, Eagle Watching at Lake Chautauqua in Winter, 104-105
 Longspur, Lapland, 129

- Loon, Arctic, *see* Pacific
Common, 45, 88
Pacific, 3, 63
Red-throated, 63
- Lowther, Peter E., Illinois Hosts of the
Brown-headed
Cowbird, 47-57
- Mallard, 104, 125
Mallard X Wood, 88
- Meadowlark, Eastern, 13, 54
Western, 54
- Merganser, Common, 104
Red-breasted, 125, 130
- Merlin, 89, 129
- Montgomery, R.A., Avian Counterpoint:
Comments on the
Parentage of a Hybrid Goose, 58-59
- Morris, Roy, Boreal Owl in Rockford: First
State Record Since 1914, 86
- Night-Heron, Yellow-crowned, 3
- Nutcracker, Clark's, 83, 106
- Nuthatch, Pygmy, 83
Red-breasted, 89
White-breasted, 50, 104
- Oriole, Baltimore, 6, 54
Bullock's, 6
Northern, *see* Baltimore or Bullock's
Orchard, 15, 54
- Ovenbird, 48, 52, 130
- Owl, Australian Hawk-, 4
Barn, 4, 22, 23
Barred, 15
Boreal, 86
Burrowing, 4
Common Barn, *see* Barn
Common Screech, *see* Eastern Screech- or
Western Screech-
Eastern Screech-, 4
Eurasian Hawk-, 4
Long-eared, 89
Northern Hawk, 4
Northern Saw-whet, 89
Short-eared, 13, 89, 129
Snowy, 87, 89, 124, 125, 127
Western Screech-, 4
- Parakeet, Monk, 87, 132
- Partridge, Gray, 89
- Parula, Northern, 51
- Pauraque, 4
Common, *see* Pauraque
- Pelican, Brown, 45, 46
American White, 45, 46, 88, 131
- Pheasant, Ring-necked, 89
- Phoebe, Eastern, 47, 48, 49, 89
- Pigeon, Band-tailed, 82, 83, 87, 88
White-necked, 82
- Pipit, American, 5, 89
Brown Tree-, *see* Tree
Olive-backed, 5
Olive Tree-, *see* Olive-backed
Tree, 5
Water, *see* American
- Plover, American Golden-, 4
European Golden-, 4
Greater Golden-, *see* European Golden-
Lesser Golden-, *see* American Golden- or
Pacific Golden-
Pacific Golden-, 4
Semipalmated, 15
- Prairie-Chicken, Greater, 12, 13
- Rail, King, 12, 13, 24
Virginia, 89
- Redpoll, Common, 89
- Redstart, American, 48, 51, 131
- Reed-Bunting, Common, *see* Bunting, Reed
Pallas', *see* Bunting, Pallas'
- Rosy-Finch, Black, 6
Brown-capped, 6
ray-crowned, 6
- Sanderling, 130, 131
- Sandpiper, Green, 4
Pectoral, 141
Spotted, 15, 130
- Sapsucker, Red-naped, 4
Yellow-bellied, 4
- Scoter, Black, 45, 46
- Shrike, Northern, 89
- Siskin, Pine, 89
- Skylark, 4
Eurasian, *see* Skylark
- Snipe, Common, 15, 46, 141
- Solitaire, Townsend's, 88
- Sparrow, American Tree, 104, 130
Brewer's, 88, 107
Chipping, 47, 48, 53
Clay-colored, 7, 88, 108, 109, 130, 131
Eurasian Tree, 89, 104
Field, 47, 48, 53
Fox, 15, 129
Grasshopper, 54
Henslow's, 54
House, 54, 129
Lark, 54, 130
LeConte's, 54, 89
Lincoln's, 54, 89, 90
Nelson's Sharp-tailed, 6
Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed, 6
Savannah, 130
Sharp-tailed, *see* Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed or
Nelson's Sharp-tailed
Song, 48, 54, 104
Swamp, 54, 90, 104
Vesper, 54
White-crowned, 131
White-throated, 89, 129
- Stilt, Black-necked, 22, 129, 139
- Stint, Red-necked, 4
Rufous-necked, *see* Red-necked
- Swallow, Bank, 49, 130
Cliff, 50, 130
- Swan, Mute, 89, 130
Tundra, 46, 88
- Tanager, Scarlet, 52
Summer, 16, 52
Western, 129, 140, 141
- Teal, Blue-winged, 14
Cinnamon, 129
Green-winged, 14
- Tern, Artic, 138
Black, 123
Caspian, 131
Common, 122, 123, 138
Forster's, 122, 123
Gull-billed, 122, 123
Least, 15, 123, 129, 131
Sandwich, 123
- Thrasher, Brown, 15, 50
Crissal, 5
- Thrush, Bicknell's, 5
Eyebrowed, 5
Gray-cheeked, 5
Varied, 88, 108
Wood, 15, 47, 50
- Titmouse, Tufted, 50, 104
- Towhee, Brown, *see* Canyon or California
California, 6
Canyon, 6
Eastern, 6, 47, 48, 53
Rufous-sided, *see* Eastern or Spotted
Spotted, 6, 89
- Turkey, Wild, 130
- Veery, 50, 130
- Vireo, Bell's, 48, 50
Blue-headed, 48, 51, 130, 131
Red-eyed, 5, 47, 48, 51
Solitary, *see* Blue-headed
Warbling, 51
White-eyed, 15, 50
Yellow-green, 5
Yellow-throated, 15, 48, 51
- Vulture, Black, 62
Turkey, 89, 130
- Walters, Eric, First State Record of Gull-
billed Tern: Waukegan Beach, 122-123
- Warbler, Black-and-white, 51, 130
Black-throated Blue, 130
Black-throated green, 130, 131
Blue-winged, 51, 130
Chestnut-sided, 51
Connecticut, 15
Golden-winged, 130
Hooded, 15, 52
Kentucky, 48, 52
Kirtland's, 48, 65, 66
Mourning, 52
Northern Parula, 15, 130
Palm, 129, 130
Pine, 89
Prairie, 51
Prothonotary, 15, 52, 130
Worm-eating, 52
Yellow, 48, 51, 130
Yellow-rumped, 15, 129, 130, 131
Yellow-throated, 15
- Waterthrush, Louisiana, 52, 130
Northern, 130
- Waxwing, Cedar, 50
- Westemeier, Ronald, Scott A. Simpson, and
Jeffery W. Walk, Nesting and Brooding by
King Rails in Upland Cool-Season Grasses
in Southern Illinois Sanctuary, 12-13
- Williamson, Christine, Illinois Bird Clubs
Provide for Varied Interests and Skill
Levels, 7-11
- Woodcock, American, 89
- Woodpecker, Downy, 104
Hairy, 15, 104
Pileated, 15, 105
Red-bellied, 15, 104
- Wood-Pewee, Eastern, 49
- Wren, Carolina, 15, 50, 89
House, 89
Marsh, 89, 130
Winter, 15
- Yellowlegs, Greater, 141
Lesser, 15, 141
- Yellowthroat, Common, 48, 52

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